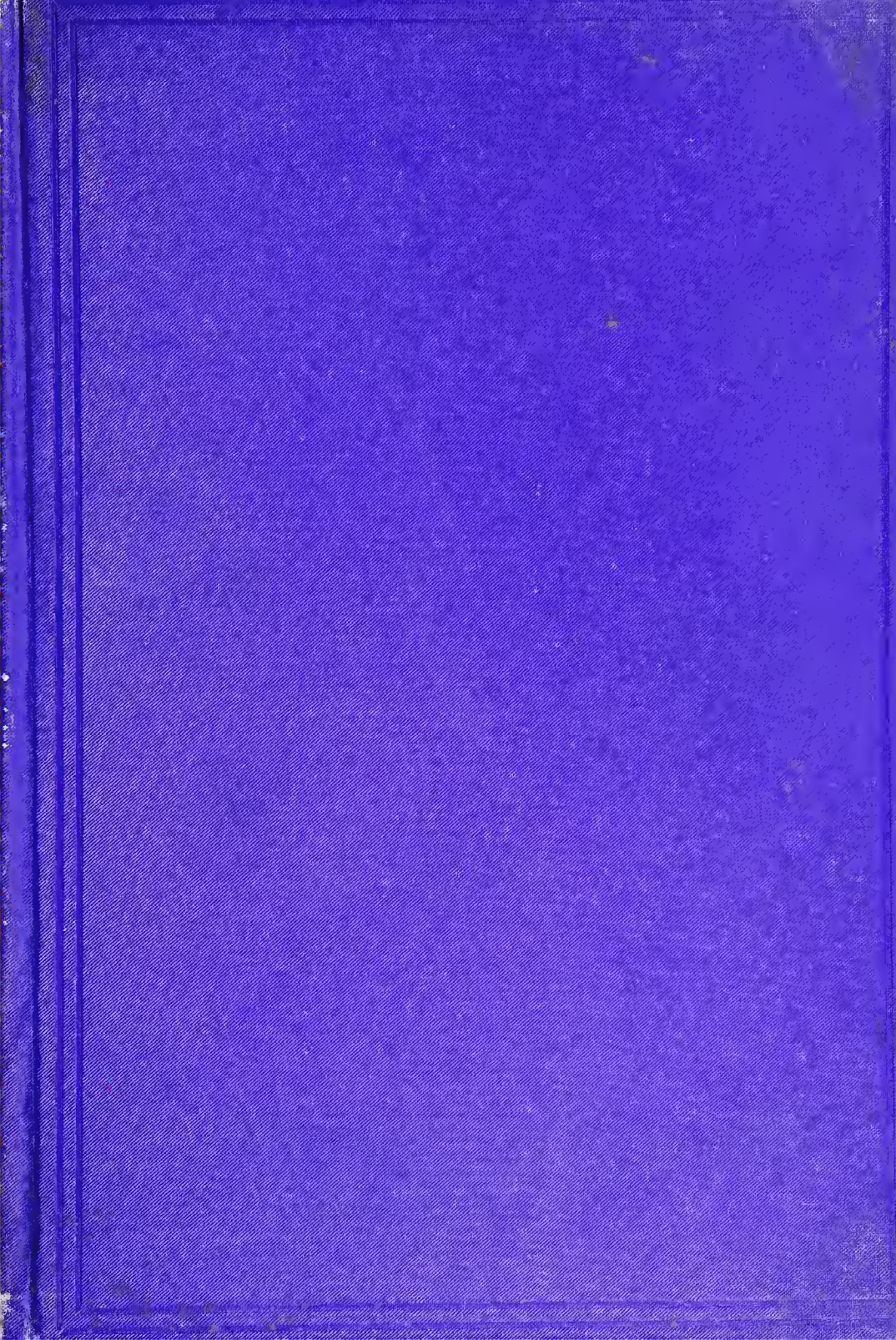
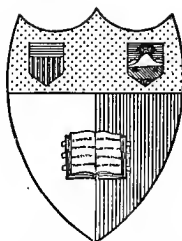






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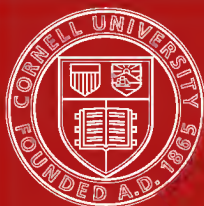
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It affords me great pleasure to
present my friend and brother
William J. Duncan 33^d
this copy of Indiana Masonic
Law and Forms of Procedure.

William H. Long the
Author.

Indianapolis, Ind.

September 11, 1899.



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INDIANA MASONIC LAW

AND

FORMS OF PROCEDURE

FOR THE

USE OF FREEMASONS AND MASONIC LODGES.

COMPILED BY

WILLIAM H. SMYTHE,

GRAND SECRETARY

OF THE

M. W. GRAND LODGE OF FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS OF THE STATE OF INDIANA.

INDIANAPOLIS:

SENTINEL PRINTING CO., PRINTERS AND BINDERS.

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William H. Smythe

THIS
LITTLE VOLUME
IS
AFFECTIONATELY DEDICATED
TO
MY FAMILY.

PREFACE.

There has never been a time since I have had the honor of being Grand Secretary of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Indiana, that I have not felt the need of a clear and concise statement of the meaning of the Laws enacted by the Grand Lodge, together with a digest of the decisions of the same. Such a work has been wanted by Grand Masters and by Worshipful Masters. Committees on Jurisprudence, Grievances and Appeals, and Charters and Dispensations have realized keenly the need of such a work. Attorneys and Brethren serving as counsel for Masons against whom charges were pending, as well as attorneys for Lodges, have been handicapped and impeded in their work by reason of the fact that page after page of printed Proceedings must necessarily be read to ascertain precedents now readily found in the statement of facts set forth in the pages of this book.

Its mission is to save time and labor, and to enable Worshipful Masters as well as Master Masons to know the law of the Grand Lodge upon every material question presented to and decided by it, from January 12, 1818, to May 25, 1898,—in other words, from the organization of the Grand Lodge to date.

I have spared neither time, pains nor labor to make the work comprehensive,—full, complete and reliable. It contains the garnerings of years of painstaking toil and study, and it is confidently believed that it will lighten the burden of those whose duty it may be to “disseminate light and knowledge to the uninformed.”

In the compilation and preparation of “PART SECOND” of this work, I have been assisted by that learned scholar, and able Masonic Jurist, Past Grand Master Thomas B. Long,

and it is due to him that I should say in this connection, that "PART FIRST" has been read by him, and has passed the test of his critical and analytical square.

It is my ardent desire that every Freemason in Indiana, from the humblest to the most exalted may be benefited, and their burdens lightened by this book.

With these remarks in a general way, I now launch the little craft, freighted with the gleanings of years, with the hope that the faults and errors, if any be found therein, may be covered with the "broad mantle of brotherly love and charity."

Fraternally,

William H. Smythe 33°

INDIANAPOLIS, November 17, A. L. 5898.

PROEMIAL.

PART FIRST of this work is the opinion of the writer based upon the Constitution and By-Laws of the Grand Lodge, and the General Regulations for the government of Subordinate Lodges in force at the date of the issue of the same. A careful reading of PART FIRST of this book will show that it is divided into subjects corresponding with the various topics shown in the Constitution, By-Laws and General Regulations of the Grand Lodge of Indiana, published in 1894. While the General Regulations referred to seem to be clear and explicit in their provisions, yet experience has taught me that many do not understand or fully comprehend their meaning, and my aim has been to throw light upon and make them clear to those whose time for investigation is limited. In the determination of questions arising in the Lodge, the opinions herein expressed may be a help to right conclusions. The forms of procedure and ceremonials are based upon the laws, usage and custom of the Fraternity in Indiana, and are submitted as a guide to those who are inexperienced in such matters. The experienced Worshipful Master and Secretary will find them helpful. Grand Masters will also find herein forms to aid them in their work.

The dominant purpose of the Digest of the decisions of Grand Masters, approvals thereof by the Grand Lodge, resolutions passed by the Grand Body from time to time creating law additional to that of the existing General Regulations, and distinct actions of the Grand Lodge on specific subjects having the operation and effect of legal enactments, composing PART SECOND of the present publication, has been to make the book an absolute and final authority for all the law of the Grand Lodge (outside of the General Regulations) and

it has been prepared so that it may be tested on any occasion and at all times by a comparison with any or all of the original Proceedings of the Grand Lodge, so that after any number of such tests—if they are ever made, as it is hoped and desired they may be—its correctness and efficacy as an authority may be ever after conceded, even to the extent that were every copy of the Proceedings lost or destroyed, it could be confidently relied on as preserving the law of the Grand Lodge of Indiana.

In order that this collation, then, shall, for the Masonic jurist, student, and every future Grand Master, take the place of the Proceedings themselves (since so many of these are out of print or inaccessible) it has been deemed highly necessary, even in its condensation of facts and law, to use, as far as possible, “the very words” of the decisions and cases digested in preference to such as would simply be synonymous, even though the compiler might think his the better—because it is particularly designed not to present an opportunity to quibble over the use of other than the exact and original words.

It is believed that this part of the book if not unique is at least different from any other publication of its kind, in that it unites the characteristics of a digest with those of a collection of leading cases, in the latter respect giving the material facts of special cases, the dominant arguments thereon, and the conclusions of law necessarily resulting therefrom—omitting only the names of the parties as calculated to encumber the text without adding anything to the force of the decisions.

During a part of the period embraced, to which it is not necessary to give specific reference, under a procedure to that effect the reports of the Committee on Grievances and Appeals were received by the Grand Lodge without action on its part, unless appeal was at the time taken from such report; but this failure of direct consideration made these reports none the less the law of the Grand Lodge, since they were so received without adverse action, which could have been taken in any erroneous conclusion under the unquestionable power of the Supreme Body. And a similar rule—

with similar alternatives and powers—also for a time applied to the decisions of Grand Masters. On one or two occasions—by probable oversight—decisions of Grand Masters were not referred, and were, consequently, not reported on, but upon this point one of the most eminent Masonic jurists in the world has said that a decision of the Grand Presiding Officer is final and conclusive in the case in which it is rendered, and that he reports it to the Grand Body, not in order to have his final action confirmed, but in order to have a rule sanctioned by the Grand Body for the settlement of future cases.*

The same purpose that has led to the exclusion of the names of parties to cases has also induced the omission of cross-references, and for this the additional opinion is entertained that a copious index—notwithstanding the alphabetical arrangement of the text—will give a speedier and better opportunity to the student or investigator to find the authority he may need than to search for it throughout the entire digest as he would virtually be constrained to do if compelled to rely on a system of cross-references. A full index is therefore added containing every title-word applicable to every possible investigation, and also every cognate word suggestive of such subject of research.

With these explanations it is believed that the scope, purpose and use of the digest will be fully understood; adding only that there are but three abbreviations in the references to the authority at the end of each paragraph, or statement of law, namely: *Proc.* which is an abbreviation of the word "Proceedings;" *Id.*, which is a similar shortening of the latin word "Idem," meaning the same, implying here that the statement it follows is sustained by the same authority cited in that which immediately precedes it; and *Hacker's Rep.*, the latter word being an abbreviation of the word "Reprint."

*Josiah H. Drummond in Proceedings of the Grand Chapter of Maine, 1897, p. 516.

PART FIRST.

INDIANA MASONIC LAW

AND

FORMS OF PROCEDURE

FOR THE

USE OF FREEMASONS AND MASONIC LODGES.

THE GRAND LODGE OF INDIANA.

The title of the Grand Lodge is the “Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Indiana.” It consists of “a Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Senior Grand Warden, Junior Grand Warden, Grand Treasurer, Grand Secretary, Grand Chaplain, Grand Lecturer, Grand Marshal, Senior Grand Deacon, Junior Grand Deacon, Grand Steward and Tyler, together with the Master or his proxy of the chartered Lodges under its jurisdiction and all the Past Grand Masters and Past Deputy Grand Masters” who are members of an Indiana subordinate Lodge.

Quorum.

Before any business can be transacted by the Grand Lodge there must be present the representatives of at least ten chartered Lodges.

GRAND OFFICERS—WHO ARE ELIGIBLE.

To be eligible to office in the Grand Lodge a brother must be a member of an Indiana Lodge in good standing. No brother is eligible to the office of Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master or Grand Warden unless he has been duly elected, installed and presided over a subordinate Lodge.

Grand Officers must be installed before officiating as such.

POWERS OF GRAND MASTER.

The Grand Master of the Grand Lodge has no powers except such as are delegated to him by the Grand Lodge. He cannot make laws, neither can he revoke nor set them aside. It is his sworn duty to obey and execute the laws that have been enacted by the Grand Lodge.

Defining his duties, the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Indiana says that "he has the right to convene the Grand Lodge in special communication, on any emergency which in his judgment may require it. He has the power, at his discretion, to assemble any subordinate Lodge, and preside therein, inspect its work, and require a strict conformity to the Constitutional Rules and Regulations of the Order. For good reasons he may suspend the functions of any Lodge. He has the command of every Grand Officer, touching the duties and ministrations of their several offices, and may call on any of them for advice and assistance on business relative to the Craft. He shall decide all questions of law or usage submitted to him, subject,

however, to an appeal to the Grand Lodge. During the recess of the Grand Lodge he may grant dispensations for the formation of Lodges.”

The foregoing contains the powers delegated to the Grand Master by the Grand Lodge in its Constitution. Nowhere is there any provision granting him the right to set law aside, or to grant permission to Lodges to do or perform any act prohibited by the Grand Lodge. He cannot grant special dispensations to Lodges to violate law—he must execute the laws made by the Grand Lodge.

DUTIES OF THE GRAND MASTER.

The duties of the Grand Master are defined in Section IV of the By-Laws of the Grand Lodge, as follows:

“1. After opening the Grand Lodge, it shall be the duty of the Grand Master to appoint the following Standing Committees, which shall consist of not less than three members each, to be selected from the members of the Grand Lodge, viz.: On Credentials, On Examining Visiting Brethren, On Ways and Means, On Unfinished Business, On Pay-Roll.

“2. To communicate in writing a statement of his official acts during the recess of the Grand Lodge. He shall report the general condition of Masonry within the jurisdiction, and recommend such legislation as he may deem necessary or expedient for the welfare of the Fraternity.

“3. To install his successor.

“4. To fill the vacancies of any Grand Office or

committee that may occur during the recess of the Grand Lodge.

“5. To sign the journal of the Grand Lodge at every annual meeting, and to see that no transcript or minutes therefrom shall at any time be printed or published until subscribed as aforesaid.

“6. On or before the first day of May of each year, to appoint the following Standing Committees, each to consist of three members of the Grand Lodge, to serve at the annual meeting of the Grand Lodge, to be held on the fourth Tuesday of May following their said appointment, to-wit: On Grievances and Appeals, On Charters and Dispensations, On Accounts, On Jurisprudence.

“7. Upon cause shown, to suspend the functions of a Lodge, and, for official misconduct, suspend the Master of a Lodge from his office.”

“8. Before the close of each annual meeting of the Grand Lodge, to appoint a Chairman for the Committee on Correspondence.

Section 44 of the General Regulations gives the Grand Master the power to arrest the charter of a Lodge for infringement of the jurisdiction of another Lodge.

In addition to the foregoing, it is the duty of the Grand Master to dedicate Masonic Halls, constitute Lodges under charter, lay corner-stones, preside at the trial of Worshipful Masters for official misconduct or unmasonic conduct, grant special dispensations to Lodges to elect officers when they fail to elect at the time provided by law, and when vacancies occur in the

.

offices of Worshipful Master and Wardens, and, he may grant new trials in cases where appeal is made direct to him.

POWERS OF THE GRAND LODGE.

“The Grand Lodge is the highest source of authority in Ancient Craft Masonry within the State of Indiana.

“It may therefore—

“First. Grant dispensations and charters for holding regular Lodges of Free and Accepted Masons, with the right to confer therein the several degrees of Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft, and Master Mason, and, when deemed expedient and for good cause, may annul, revoke or amend such dispensation or charter, or any pre-existing dispensation or charter.

“Second. It has original and exclusive jurisdiction over all subjects of Masonic legislation, and appellate jurisdiction from the decisions of subordinate Lodges; and its enactments and decisions upon all questions shall be the supreme Masonic law of the State.

“Third. It may assign the limits of each Lodge under its jurisdiction, and settle all controversies that may arise between them, and has the final decision and determination of all matters of controversies or grievances which may be brought up by appeal or otherwise.

“Fourth. It may make and adopt general laws and regulations for the government of the several Lodges under its jurisdiction, and at pleasure alter, amend, or repeal the same.

“Fifth. It may assess and collect from the several Lodges under its jurisdiction such sums of money annually as may be provided for in the By-Laws of the Grand Lodge, and found necessary for the support and maintenance thereof.

“Sixth. It may supervise the state and condition of its own finances, and adopt such measures in relation thereto as may be for the good of the Order.

“Seventh. It may reprimand, suspend, or expel any member from its own body for a violation of the Constitution, By-Laws and Regulations of the Grand Lodge, or for any other improper and unmasonic conduct.

“Eighth. It shall, at each annual communication, consider and review the reports and doings of the Grand Officers for the past year, as well as those of the several Lodges under its jurisdiction.

“Ninth. And, finally, may do whatsoever may be regarded as necessary or appertaining to the well-being and perpetuity of Ancient Craft Masonry within the State of Indiana.”

It is hardly necessary to comment upon the above quoted powers of the Grand Lodge, unless it be to call attention to the ninth paragraph, which, in the opinion of the writer, is broad enough to cover almost everything. Bear in mind, however, that the Worshipful Master of each Lodge is an integral part of the Grand Lodge, and is responsible to the Craft in general for the conduct of the business of the Grand Lodge; hence the importance of clearly understanding what has been done by the Grand Lodge, and

what may be done in accordance with its Constitution to strengthen and benefit Freemasonry.

HOW TO ORGANIZE A NEW LODGE.

During the recess of the Grand Lodge the Grand Master has authority to issue dispensations for the formation of new Lodges. (See Article XI of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge.)

The names of at least seven Master Masons must be signed to a petition for a dispensation for a new Lodge, and the petition must be recommended by *all* the Lodges whose jurisdiction will be affected by the new Lodge. (See Article XII, Constitution of the Grand Lodge.)

The fee for a dispensation for a new Lodge is sixty dollars, and the dispensation cannot issue until the money is paid to the Grand Secretary. (See Section XVI, By-Laws of the Grand Lodge.)

The petition for a dispensation should be in the following form, to-wit:

PETITION FOR DISPENSATION.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Indiana:

The undersigned petitioners, being Master Masons in good standing and residents of the State of Indiana, having the prosperity of Freemasonry at heart, are desirous of organizing a new Lodge in the (town or city) of..... county of..... and State of Indiana, to be called Lodge. We therefore pray for a dispensation, empowering us to open and hold a regular Lodge of Master Masons at the place aforesaid, and therein to discharge the duties and enjoy the privileges of Freemasonry in a regular and constitutional manner.

We nominate and recommend Brother.....to be

appointed Worshipful Master; Brother.....Senior Warden; and Brother.....Junior Warden of said Lodge.

Should the prayer of this petition be granted, we promise a strict conformity to the Constitution, General Regulations and Edicts of the Grand Lodge.

The jurisdiction of the following Lodges will be affected by the organization of the proposed new Lodge, and their location and distance from said proposed Lodge is as follows, to-wit:

LODGE.	LOCATION.	DISTANCE.
.....No..		Miles.
.....No..		Miles.
.....No..		Miles.
NAMES OF PETITIONERS.	NAME OF FORMER LODGE.	
.....		Lodge No..
.....		Lodge No..
.....		Lodge No..

Each Master Mason who signs the petition must write his name in full, and must give the name of the Lodge to which he belongs, or to which he formerly belonged. Names must not be signed by initials—that is to say, if your name is John Smith, it must not be signed J. Smith, but must be written John Smith. When the petition has been signed by all the Master Masons desired, a convention should be called for the purpose of selecting a name for the Lodge, and also to select the first Worshipful Master, Senior Warden and Junior Warden. The convention having assembled, a President, Secretary and Treasurer should be selected.

When the convention is thus organized, the business preliminary to the organization of the Lodge should be transacted in the order above set forth.

Care should be taken to have the Secretary of the convention keep and write up the minutes of the same. The convention should direct the President to appoint a committee to present the petition to the Lodges whose jurisdictions may be affected. It must be presented to each Lodge at a stated meeting thereof. The Lodges recommending the new Lodge must do so in the following form, to-wit:

FORM OF RECOMMENDATION.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master:

At a stated meeting of.....Lodge No., F. & A. Masons, held at the hall of said Lodge, on the.....day of....., 18.., the petition of the several brethren, praying for a dispensation to organize a new Lodge at....., in the county of....., and State of Indiana, was laid before said Lodge, when it was

Resolved, That this Lodge, being satisfied that the petitioners are Master Masons in good standing, and being prepared to vouch for their moral character and Masonic qualifications, does therefore recommend that the dispensation prayed for be granted.

A true copy from the records.

[Seal.]

Witness, my signature and the seal of
.....Lodge No...., this
.....day of....., 18....
.....Secretary.

When this is done, attach the receipts for dues or the dimits of the petitioners to the petition and enclose them, with a bank draft or money order for sixty dollars, in a strong envelope and forward them to the Grand Master or the Grand Secretary.

When the Grand Master receives the petition he will appoint a Special Deputy to visit the location of the proposed new Lodge. The Special Deputy will

inspect the hall in which the Lodge is to meet, to ascertain whether it is safe and suitable for a Masonic Lodge. He will also require the petitioners to exemplify the work of the Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft and Master Mason's degrees, and if, in his opinion, the hall is safe and suitable, and the petitioners competent to confer the degrees in a manner necessary to impart Masonic knowledge, he will recommend that the dispensation issue. When the Grand Master receives the report of the Special Deputy, he will then issue orders to the Grand Secretary to prepare the dispensation for signature. The dispensation is signed by the Grand Master and attested by the Grand Secretary, and is then forwarded to the Worshipful Master of the new Lodge.

When the Worshipful Master receives it he will call a meeting of the Lodge, and when the brethren have assembled, the officers below the rank of Junior Warden should be selected by the brethren, or appointed by the Worshipful Master, to serve during the life of the dispensation, which in no case can be longer than May 15th following the date of the issue of the dispensation.

After the subordinate officers have been selected, the Worshipful Master should order the Secretary to read the dispensation, and should ask the Lodge to formally accept the same. When this is done the officers of the Lodge will take their respective stations, and the Worshipful Master will then open the Lodge on the third degree of Masonry. The officers of a Lodge under dispensation must not be installed.

When the Lodge is opened it may transact any business necessary to be done. The Worshipful Master must see that the Secretary enters the minutes of the convention, a copy of the petition for the dispensation, the dispensation and By-Laws of the Lodge in the record of the Lodge, and he must also see that the name of every member and visitor at all the meetings are made a part of the record of the Lodge.

When the minutes of the Lodge are read at each stated meeting, and approved by the Lodge, they must be signed by the Worshipful Master on the right hand side, and attested by the Secretary on the left hand side of the page of the record. The Worshipful Master should leave his station and sign the record as soon as the minutes are approved by the Lodge.

On the fifteenth day of May the Worshipful Master must forward the dispensation, record and By-Laws of the Lodge, together with a petition for a charter, and the fee, forty-three dollars, to the Grand Secretary. The petition for the charter may be in the form of a resolution adopted by the Lodge at the last stated meeting held by it. The resolution should be in the following words, substituting the names of the officers selected by the Lodge for the names herein, to-wit:

PETITION FOR CHARTER.

At a stated meeting of Alexander Buckner Lodge, U. D., held at the hall of said Lodge, in Charlestown, Clark county, Indiana, on Tuesday evening, May 10, 1898, the following resolution was adopted by said Lodge, to-wit:

Resolved, That Alexander Buckner Lodge U. D. hereby petitions the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Ac-

cepted Masons of the State of Indiana to grant said Lodge a charter, and that this Lodge nominates Brother Jonathan Jennings for the first Worshipful Master, Brother Marston G. Clark for the first Senior Warden, and Brother Isaac Howk for the first Junior Warden of said Lodge.

Witness my signature this 10th day of May, 1898.

JAMES F. D. LANIER,
Secretary.

When the records, By-Laws and petition of the Lodge are received by the Grand Secretary, they are placed in the hands of the Committee on Charters and Dispensations previously appointed by the Most Worshipful Grand Master, and carefully examined, and all errors, irregularities and violations of law critically considered, and if, in the opinion of said committee, the work done is free from errors, upon their recommendation a charter may be granted in accordance with the wish of the petitioners.

NEW LODGE—HOW AND BY WHOM CONSTITUTED.

A new Lodge must be constituted by the Grand Master, or by a Special Deputy appointed by him for that purpose. At the time agreed upon for the ceremonies of constitution, the Grand Master or his Special Deputy will meet the members in the hall of the new Lodge. The constituting officer will first examine the dimits of the petitioners to ascertain that all have complied with Sections 12 and 13 of the General Regulations, which provide that all who desire to remain members of the new Lodge must file their dimits with the officer constituting the Lodge. When that officer is satisfied, he will make a complete list of the officers and members of the Lodge and forward the same to

the Grand Secretary. The officer constituting the Lodge must confer the Past Master's degree upon the Master of the new Lodge if that duty has not previously been performed. The ceremonies of constituting the Lodge may then proceed in accordance with the ceremonies laid down in Thomas Smith Webb's Monitor, or they may be performed in the following manner:*

First. Have the charter read by the Secretary and accepted by the Lodge.

Second. Open the new Lodge and install the officers.

Third. Formally declare the Lodge lawfully constituted.

In concluding this chapter it is necessary to say that all expenses attending the formation of a new Lodge must be borne by the petitioners, and that the proceedings attending the organization of a Lodge must be substantially performed in the way and manner herein outlined. Everything done and all the ceremonies attending the same should be with dignity and promptness. The Secretary should have the pride necessary to prompt him to keep the records in a neat and clean manner. The names of the members attending the meetings should be written in full, plain and distinct—they should never be given by initials, because initials for Christian names mean nothing. The Worshipful Master should examine the record of the Lodge frequently to see that it is properly kept—bear in mind always, that the record of a Lodge is its

* NOTE.—See Lodges—How Constituted, page 73.

history, and that by it all claims to membership are established; hence the great importance of correctly keeping it.

LODGES—HOW DISSOLVED.

The General Regulations provide for the dissolution of Lodges, but experience has taught me that the subject is not clearly understood.

There are three ways to dissolve a Lodge:

First. By the surrender of the charter.

Second. By the arrest of the charter; and

Third. By consolidation with another Lodge.

When the members of a Lodge become convinced that it has reached the end of its usefulness, a proposition should be made in writing at a stated meeting thereof to surrender the charter of the same. Said proposition must be seconded by a majority vote of the members present when the proposition is made, and, that every member of the Lodge may be fully advised that this preliminary step looking to the dissolution of the Lodge is pending, notice should be sent to them, warning them of the fact, that at the next stated meeting the vote will be taken upon said proposition. Under the law (see Section 17, General Regulations) the vote cannot be taken at any other meeting of the Lodge, neither can the charter be surrendered if seven members should vote against the proposition. Seven Master Masons may procure a charter, and seven Master Masons may prevent its surrender. If the Lodge votes to surrender the charter, the Worshipful Master must take immediate possession of the

charter and all the books and property of the Lodge, and make an inventory of the effects of the same, and send a copy of the inventory, together with a certificate of the surrender of the charter, to the Grand Master. The Worshipful Master must also forward to the Grand Secretary a list of the members of the Lodge, together with a statement showing the amount of dues owing by each for dues up to the date of the surrender of the charter.

When the surrender of the charter has been accepted by the Grand Lodge, and the charter revoked, the members of the Lodge may pay the dues owing by them (at the time of the surrender of the charter) to the Grand Secretary, and receive from him a certificate equivalent to a dimit, which will place them in a position to petition another Lodge for membership.

When the charter of a Lodge is arrested by the Grand Lodge, the same proceedings are to govern the Special Deputy appointed by the Grand Master to close up the Lodge as are imposed upon the Worshipful Master in case of the surrender of the charter, and the same steps are necessary to procure enabling certificates from the Grand Secretary.

When Lodges have voted to consolidate, the charter of one is revoked and the property and membership rights are merged into one Lodge, without any other action than that specifically set out in the General Regulations providing for the consolidation of Lodges. The charter made void by the consolidation must be returned to the Grand Secretary.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

The officers of Lodges must be elected annually. In no case can the officers of a Lodge continue for a longer period than one year. Should a Lodge fail from any cause to elect officers at the "stated meeting next preceding the anniversary of St. John the Evangelist," application should be immediately made to the Grand Master for a special dispensation to hold an election at the next stated meeting of the Lodge.

VACANCIES IN OFFICE.

Vacancies in the office of Warden, Treasurer or Secretary may be filled by special election by the Lodge at any stated meeting thereof, without a special dispensation from the Grand Master.

When a vacancy occurs in the office of Worshipful Master, the Warden next in rank becomes the acting Worshipful Master, possessed of all the rights, powers and duties of the Worshipful Master, including the burial of the dead, excepting, however, the right to a seat in the East when visiting a sister Lodge, and excepting the right to install officers, and the right to the Past Master's degree, or to perform the public ceremonies of the Fraternity not mentioned above; and all orders signed by him and all records approved by him should be signed "Acting Worshipful Master." The same instruction applies with equal force to the Junior Warden when assuming the office of Worshipful Master in the absence of the Worshipful Master and Senior Warden. The fact should not be lost sight of that the vacancy is in the office of Wor-

shipful Master, and that when the Senior Warden assumes the duties of Worshipful Master, that the office of Senior Warden does not thereby become vacant. The acting Worshipful Master may call any brother to the office of Senior Warden *pro tempore*, and, that because of the elevation of the Senior Warden it does not follow that the officers below that rank are thereby promoted one step.

WHO ARE ELIGIBLE TO OFFICE.

Any Master Mason who has been elected, installed and served as Senior or Junior Warden of a chartered Lodge, or has been appointed and served as Worshipful Master of a Lodge under dispensation, is eligible for election to the office of Worshipful Master of a chartered Lodge. A brother who has not served in accordance with the above cannot be installed Master of a Lodge, even though the members thereof should elect him. It would be unlawful for any Past Master to install into office a brother not qualified as above indicated.

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS.

The officers of a Lodge must be installed as often as elected, and the installation ceremonies must be performed by a present or actual Past Master; in other words, the ceremonies must be performed by one who has himself been installed as Worshipful Master of a chartered Lodge. The installing Past Master must also be affiliated with some regular Lodge of Master Masons. A brother who has received the Past Master's degree in a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, but

who has not been elected and installed Worshipful Master of a Lodge, cannot install the officers of a Lodge.

WORSHIPFUL MASTER.

To be thoroughly competent to discharge the duties of the office of Worshipful Master requires long years of hard study, close application, much sacrifice of time, and unlimited patience. A brother may be thoroughly competent to confer the degrees of Freemasonry, and yet totally incompetent to discharge the duties pertaining to the office of Worshipful Master. To be thoroughly fitted for that high office a brother must be conversant with the Ancient Landmarks of Freemasonry, the Constitution and General Regulations of the Grand Lodge, the By-Laws of his Lodge, and he must also be well informed upon Masonic jurisprudence and Masonic parliamentary law; he must also be versed in the etiquette of the Fraternity. In other words, he must be equipped to discharge any duty that may fall to his lot while standing before his brethren as the head of his Lodge. When a question of law is raised in the Lodge, the Worshipful Master should be able to promptly make a ruling thereon, and when he has made his decision he should have the firmness to prohibit further discussion. When the Grand Master visits the Lodge, the Master should know how to receive him as such, and thus shield the Lodge from mortification, himself from confusion, and the Grand Master from embarrassment. The Worshipful Master must know the proper form of keeping the records of the Lodge, and he must see that

they are correctly kept; he must know that all financial matters are "properly rendered," and that everything pertaining to the business and well-being of his Lodge receives prompt attention. The Grand Lodge holds him responsible for the conduct of his Lodge. There is no room or place in a Masonic Lodge for levity or trifling, and it devolves upon the Master to prevent and forbid anything of the kind. He must require the brethren to perform the solemn and impressive ceremonies with dignity and decorum, and he may waive his right to preside in favor of any competent brother at any time, and he should tender the gavel to the Grand Master whenever that officer visits his Lodge. In a subsequent chapter, and under another head, many of the duties and civilities pertaining to the office of Worshipful Master will be more fully set out and explained.

LODGE MEETINGS.

The stated meetings of the Lodge must be held at the time designated in the By-Laws. By providing stated periods for the transaction of business, undue advantage cannot be taken of the members, because the By-law is a perpetual notice to the brethren, and they can have no excuse for criticism, neither can they complain of the lawful action of the Lodge, for the very just reason that they knew when the Lodge would meet, and it was their duty to be present in their respective places in the Lodge.

The Worshipful Master has the authority to call meetings of his Lodge for the following purposes only, viz.: To confer degrees; for the trial of a brother; to

attend the funeral of a deceased Master Mason; to install the officers of a Lodge; to attend the ceremonies of laying the corner-stone of Masonic Halls or Temples, or to attend the laying of the corner-stones of public edifices when the same are laid by the Grand Master; to attend the dedication of halls for Masonic purposes; and to attend the celebration of St. John's day.

The Worshipful Master cannot call a meeting of his Lodge to transact any business except that above specified. In other words, the Worshipful Master cannot call a meeting to receive or act upon petitions, nor to transact any business involving the finances of the Lodge. A Lodge cannot be opened on Sunday, except to attend the funeral of a Master Mason.

PLACE OF MEETING.

A Lodge must hold its meetings in the town or city named in the charter thereof, except "for funerals or other public ceremonials" it may be opened or closed in a safe and suitable place within its jurisdiction. It cannot be opened for any purpose within the jurisdiction of another Lodge. A Lodge cannot hold meetings in a hall occupied by any organization not Masonic. In other words, a Masonic Lodge may hold its meetings in a hall occupied by a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, a Council of Royal and Select Masters, a Commandery of Knights Templar, a Council of the Order of High Priesthood, the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasons, and a Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star. No other organization

whatsoever can meet in the hall of a Masonic Lodge, and it is not in the power of the Grand Master to grant a special dispensation to alter, change or modify the law upon this subject, and it is a waste of time, patience and postage to ask him to do so, because it is his sworn duty to execute and obey the law.

MEETINGS—WHO AND WHAT NECESSARY.

Before a Lodge can be opened on any degree, there must be present a dispensation or charter from lawful authority, together with the Holy Bible, Square and Compasses.

To open a Lodge of Entered Apprentices or a Lodge of Fellow Crafts, there must be present seven Master Masons, one of whom must be the Master or Warden of the Lodge. To open a Lodge of Master Masons there must be present seven Master Masons, one of whom must be the Master or Warden of the Lodge, and to open a Lodge of Master Masons at the stated meeting of the Lodge, the same requirements are necessary, with the addition that the seven Master Masons present must be members of the Lodge.

LODGE MUST MEET.

If a Lodge fails to hold stated meetings for six consecutive months, it thereby places itself within the power of the Grand Master, and he may suspend the functions thereof, and render the charter of no legal force or effect whatsoever.

RECORDS OF LODGE.

When the records or minutes have been approved by the Lodge they cannot be expunged, neither can

they be altered; hence the great importance of having the minutes correctly written, and it is also equally important that they state the facts, otherwise the record may be encumbered with an error that remains of record perpetually; and while the Lodge may by nuncupative action at a subsequent meeting correct the error, yet the fact still remains upon the record of the Lodge that a grievous or annoying blunder was made, and approved by the Lodge. Let me admonish you to watch the reading of the minutes.

GEOGRAPHICAL JURISDICTION.

The petition for a dispensation for a new Lodge specifies the names of all the Lodges whose jurisdictions may be affected by the organization of the Lodge. The Grand Lodge verifies the statements contained in the petition, and makes it the basis for its action in defining the boundary line of the jurisdiction of the proposed Lodge. Figuratively speaking, it sets the corner-stones—runs the lines and establishes by solemn enactment the boundaries thereof. When the charter is delivered to the petitioners by the Grand Master or his lawfully deputed agent, the petitioners are required to formally accept the same, which is always done by a unanimous vote of the Lodge. The Grand Lodge has granted the Lodge the power to make Masons of all “good men and true” within the boundary outlined in the petition. Every member of the Lodge is bound by the contract, and when a Lodge violates its agreement with the Grand Lodge it commits a grievous wrong that cannot be atoned by the payment of money to the Lodge wronged by its un-

masonic action. The Lodge owes it to itself, to the Grand Lodge, and to Freemasonry as well, to carefully consider and be absolutely certain that it has jurisdiction over a candidate before it receives his petition. If a doubt arises, give the sister Lodge the benefit of the doubt until a direct or air-line (as a bird would fly) can be run from the residence of the candidate to the sister Lodge. If he resides nearer to your Lodge than he does to the sister Lodge, receive his petition; if, however, he resides nearest the sister Lodge, stop further proceedings, and by resolution adopted by your Lodge ask your sister Lodge to waive jurisdiction over the candidate in favor of your Lodge. In towns and cities where there is more than one Lodge, each Lodge has equal jurisdiction, and equal right to receive and act upon a petition, and equal right also to waive jurisdiction in favor of a Lodge of another jurisdiction, and, it is not necessary to ask but one Lodge to waive jurisdiction. To make this point clear and explicit, let me illustrate: A candidate residing in Indianapolis (which has nine Lodges) desires to be made a Mason in Bridgeport Lodge No. 162, nine miles west of Indianapolis. Bridgeport Lodge applies to Marion Lodge No. 35 of Indianapolis for a waiver of jurisdiction over the candidate. Marion Lodge, by a vote thereof, complies with the request. Bridgeport Lodge may then receive and act upon the petition.

PENAL JURISDICTION.

A Master Mason, whether affiliated with a Lodge or not, is answerable to the Lodge within whose jurisdic-

tion he may reside. If he commit a Masonic offense, he may be charged, tried and punished by the Lodge within whose jurisdiction he resides, or he may be charged, tried and punished by the Lodge of which he is a member. The only qualification is,—that in towns and cities where there is more than one Lodge, the offending brother must be tried in his own Lodge, provided he is a member of one of the Lodges in the town or city where he resides. The law clearly enjoins upon Lodges the imperative duty to take cognizance of the conduct of all Master Masons within their respective jurisdictions.

Lodges do not have penal jurisdiction over the Grand Master or Worshipful Masters for official misconduct—the Grand Lodge alone has jurisdiction in such cases.

PETITION FOR DEGREES OR MEMBERSHIP.

A petition to be made a Mason, or a petition for membership, cannot be presented to a Lodge at a called meeting; neither can a vote be taken upon a petition at a called meeting. All business relating to petitions must be transacted at a stated meeting. The selection of material for the Masonic Fraternity is one of the most important duties delegated to Lodges by the Grand Lodge; hence the necessity of surrounding it with stringent safeguards. The law requires that a petition shall be presented at a stated meeting, with the further requirement that it lie over for consideration at least four weeks. These provisions are wise, because they prevent an unscrupulous Worshipful

Master from taking advantage of an absent member—a member, perhaps, who may possess evidence of the total unfitness of a candidate, and it also gives the resident members an opportunity to ascertain for themselves the pendency of all petitions, thus rendering it possible for them to be present and cast their votes for or against the applicant.

There is no provision whatever in the laws of the Grand Lodge of Indiana providing for cases of emergency. A Lodge has no right to declare an emergency, neither can the Grand Master grant it permission to do so. By its laws the Grand Lodge has said that there is no emergency—that a petition must be held up four weeks before the Lodge can act upon it.

Petitions cannot be received from sojourners. The petitioner must reside within the jurisdiction of the Lodge six months before he can petition the Lodge to be made a Mason. A legal voting residence is not always a Masonic residence. A voter may remove from one precinct to another, or from one township to another in the same county, and gain a legal residence in thirty days, and he may remove from one county to another and gain a legal residence in sixty days. There may be two or more Lodges in one township or county, and yet, under Masonic law, if a man removes from the jurisdiction of one Lodge to the jurisdiction of another Lodge in the same township or county, he must reside there six months before he acquires Masonic residence.

If a petitioner is rejected by an Indiana Lodge, he cannot petition another Lodge for one year. How-

ever, the Lodge which rejected him may, by a unanimous vote taken at a stated meeting thereof, waive jurisdiction in favor of another Lodge.

If a petitioner wishes to withdraw his petition, he must make application in writing therefor, and obtain the consent of the Lodge by a majority vote.

QUALIFICATIONS OF PETITIONERS.

A candidate for the degrees of Freemasonry must be twenty-one years of age, must possess a good moral character, be able to support himself and family, a resident of the jurisdiction of the Lodge six months, and physically, must be able to comply in every particular with the requirements of Freemasonry. He must be able to hear, see and feel, and he must believe in a Supreme Being. He must possess hands, arms, legs and feet, and he must possess the thumb and fingers of the right hand. The loss of one eye or the thumb and fingers of the left hand would not debar a candidate.

The Grand Master has no authority whatever to issue dispensations to Lodges to make Masons of men who are not physically able to comply with the requirements of Freemasonry. An intelligent Worshipful Master can always determine, after seeing a candidate, whether he may or may not be made a Mason. When offering prayer, Masons often kneel for that purpose; therefore, a candidate must be able to kneel on one or both knees.

The Committee on Character, when investigating the character of a petitioner, should see the candidate

personally, and ascertain by judicious questioning, or by an examination, if necessary, as to the physical ability of the petitioner, and should orally report all the facts gleaned, clearly stating all information relating to the candidate, either good, bad or indifferent, that the Lodge may be in possession of all the facts in connection with the candidate before voting upon his admission.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS.

The report of a committee on the petition of a candidate for the degrees or membership must not be recorded in the minutes of the Lodge, neither should it be written. The report should be orally made, and the record of the Lodge should be made to show the facts in substantially the following form: The committee upon the petition of Mr. John Smith to be made a Mason reported and was discharged; thereupon the ballot was spread for the candidate aforesaid to be made a Mason, which resulted in his election (or rejection, as the case may be).

Immediately after the committee reports, the ballot must be spread; it cannot be postponed. It is not necessary for the Worshipful Master to wait for a motion to pass the ballot-box; he should order the same as soon as the committee reports.

LODGE MEMBERSHIP.

A Mason becomes a member of a Lodge by affiliation or by being elected to and receiving the degrees in the same. A dimitted or non-affiliated Mason must present his petition for affiliation, accompanied by a dimit or certificate of his former affiliation.

A Master Mason may petition any Lodge for membership, whether he resides within the jurisdiction of the same or not, and a Mason cannot be a member of but one Lodge. Membership in a Lodge cannot be forfeited by operation of law. Membership may be terminated as follows: By death, dimitting, or being suspended or expelled. If suspended or expelled, it must be done by a vote of the Lodge, except in cases where the charge is for non-payment of dues. When the charge is non-payment of dues, the Lodge finds guilty by a vote and the Worshipful Master declares the accused indefinitely suspended.

When a Mason finds it necessary to dimit from his Lodge, he must pay all dues owing by him to the date of the meeting when application is made for a dimit. He must then make his application for dimit in writing and attach his receipt for dues to it, and present it at a stated meeting of the Lodge. A dimit must be issued by a vote of the Lodge at a stated meeting thereof. It cannot be issued at a called meeting.

HONORARY MEMBERSHIP.

The law provides that Lodges may elect honorary members. The authority to do so is limited to members of other Lodges. A Lodge cannot elect one of its own members to honorary membership. If a Lodge has within its jurisdiction a Mason who has achieved distinction either in Masonry, the State, Nation, or in the arts and sciences, and who holds membership in another Lodge, it may elect him an honor-

any member thereof, thereby identifying him with your Lodge, thus causing him to feel and take an interest in the same, without the necessity of severing his former Masonic ties. A Lodge may also take up the name of any Mason in the State outside of its jurisdiction and elect him to honorary membership. Honorary membership does "not confer any of the rights of regular membership." To elect one of your own members to honorary membership would be to take from him rights and privileges with which the law endows him. Lodges, through a misconception of the law, attempt to relieve members from the payment of dues by electing them honorary members. Such proceedings are void, illegal, and of no effect, and when a motion of that sort is made the Worshipful Master should promptly rule it out of order. You must limit the honorary roll of your Lodge to members of other Lodges.

BALLOT FOR DEGREES OR MEMBERSHIP.

When voting for members or for candidates to receive the degrees, the ballot must be taken at a stated meeting, and every member of the Lodge present must vote. The Worshipful Master cannot excuse a member from this duty, neither can the Lodge, because the law upon the subject is mandatory. One black ball or one black cube will reject a candidate for membership or the degrees. The law provides that where one negative vote appears upon first passing the ballot, that it shall be passed the second time, and that if the negative vote appears again, the rejection of the applicant shall be declared. It is not proper to permit

any statements to be made by any member after the Committee on Character has reported and the ballot has been ordered, neither is it proper to entertain a motion to reconsider a ballot vote, either before or after the declaration of the result by the Worshipful Master; in other words, the language of the Grand Lodge law upon the subject is that "a vote by ballot can in no case be reconsidered." One ballot will elect a candidate to receive all the degrees conferred by the Lodge.

In all matters affecting membership in the Lodge (except granting dimitts) the vote must be taken by ballot. In granting dimitts the vote may be taken by aye and nay vote or by a show of hands. There is no law for taking a vote by rising to the feet. There are only three ways of expressing the will of the Lodge: First, by ballot; second, by ayes and nays; and third, by a show of hands.

A ballot vote is both secret and sacred. A member has no right whatever to state whether he cast an affirmative or negative vote, neither has he any right to make any statement, either in or out of the Lodge, as to how others may have voted. The secrecy of the ballot would be destroyed if members were permitted to reveal their votes. If a Mason reveals the character of his vote, or if he makes a statement that a member cast a negative vote, or even an affirmative vote, he renders himself liable to charges of unmasonic conduct, and, if charged and found guilty, may be expelled for the violation of the law. It is just as great an offense to state that you cast an affirmative

vote as it is to say that you cast a negative vote; both are prohibited by the law, and the harmony and well-being of the Lodge demands that the Worshipful Master require a strict compliance with the law, and that he promptly rebuke any and all violations of the law relating to the secrecy of the ballot. Failure to enforce the law of the secrecy of the ballot will destroy the harmony and usefulness of the Lodge. Enforce the law strictly.

BALLOT—HOW ANNULLED.

After a candidate is elected to receive the degrees of Masonry, a member of the Lodge may file objections with the Worshipful Master against the candidate. When objections have been filed with the Worshipful Master, the degree of Entered Apprentice cannot be conferred. The ballot electing him is thereby annulled, and it is the duty of the Worshipful Master to report to the Lodge at the first stated meeting after the objections were filed with him, the fact that objections were filed against the candidate (naming the candidate). In making his report the Worshipful Master must be very careful not to divulge the name of the objecting member. When the Worshipful Master reports the facts in the manner outlined above, the Secretary should make the record relating to the same read substantially as follows, using the name of the candidate for the blank in this form: The Worshipful Master announced to the Lodge that a member of this Lodge has filed objections with him against Mr. ———, who was on the ——— day of ———, 18—, elected to receive the degrees in this Lodge.

Said objections having the legal force and effect of a negative ballot, the election of Mr. ——— aforesaid is thereby annulled, and his petition declared rejected.

ADVANCEMENT—HOW PREVENTED.

When a candidate has received the Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft degrees he is endowed with rights not possessed by the profane. An objection filed with the Worshipful Master will not permanently stop him. When a candidate has received either of said degrees, a member may file objections with the Worshipful Master against his further advancement. At the first stated meeting afterwards the Worshipful Master must report that objections have been filed against Brother ———, an Entered Apprentice, or Fellow Craft, as the case may be, and he should also announce that if the objector desires to permanently stop the candidate, that he must prefer charges against him, and he should also announce that if the charges are not preferred on or before the next stated meeting of the Lodge, that he will (if satisfied that the candidate is worthy) confer the degree upon him. In other words, an Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft cannot be stopped longer than one month by a mere objection. The objector must prefer charges, and he must prove them to the satisfaction of the Lodge. If the candidate, after a fair and impartial trial, is acquitted of the charge, the Worshipful Master must proceed to confer the remaining degrees upon him.

REJECTED APPLICANT.

When a petition for the degrees or for membership is rejected by the Lodge, that petition is dead, and can-

not be used again to present the name of the party to the Lodge, and it is the duty of the Secretary to notify the applicant of his rejection. If it is a petitioner for the degrees, the fee must be returned with the notice, and if for membership, the dimit, and fee, if any, must also be returned to the applicant. If a petitioner desires to petition the Lodge again, it cannot be done until the next stated meeting of the Lodge. A petitioner must sign his own petition; in no case can this be done by anyone else. Friends of an applicant cannot sign his name to a new petition the evening of his rejection, and renew the same. The candidate must be consulted and fully informed of his rejection, and thus given an opportunity to determine for himself as to the advisability of renewing the same; and besides, a petition signed by a friend is not the bona fide act or petition of the applicant. An applicant for affiliation must submit to the ordeal of the secret ballot the same as a petitioner for the degrees, and he must yield with becoming grace to the will of the members of the Lodge. One of the greatest rights vested in a Lodge is the right to determine for itself who shall become members thereof—nay, more: it is an unalterable and fixed law of Freemasonry that each and every member of a Lodge has an absolute right to vote for or against any candidate, and, as set out in a former chapter, the right to complain at the action of a member in thus asserting his rights does not exist, but, on the other hand, is prohibited. If a member even suspects any particular member of casting a negative ballot, that fact must be kept within himself, and he has no right whatever to mention it to

others. Many complaints have come to the writer on account of the rejection of Master Masons for affiliation, and in some instances I have been asked to invoke the aid of the Grand Master in behalf of such applicants. In answer to all such letters I have invariably answered that there is no power on earth to prevent or prohibit a Master Mason from casting a negative vote. A Master Mason who seeks the aid of the Grand Master to enable him to affiliate with a Lodge needs a lesson in humility—needs to learn that when he dimits from his Lodge of his own free will and accord, that it is the right of those who stay within the fold to say whether he shall ever come back again. Submission to the will of the Lodge is the paramount duty of all good Masons. He who will not submit gracefully is hardly worthy of membership.

REQUIREMENTS FOR ADVANCEMENT.

Freemasonry requires a certain degree of intelligence in its members. These requirements are just and reasonable. A Mason must be able to acquire and retain a certain amount of knowledge; therefore, after receiving the first degree, he must acquire the knowledge required by Freemasonry before the second degree can be conferred upon him, and the same requirement follows when he has received the second degree. His advancement, consequently, depends on his ability and energy in making the necessary proficiency in the degrees. The Worshipful Master should never advance a candidate until he can pass a creditable examination in open Lodge, or in the presence of competent witnesses. Furthermore, after a

candidate has received the third degree, the Worshipful Master owes it to the brother, his Lodge in particular, and to Freemasonry in general, that the candidate receive the instruction in that degree to enable him to "travel" and make himself known as a Mason. The Worshipful Master should assure himself that every candidate initiated, passed and raised in his Lodge is competent to travel and work as a graduate; in other words, he should be certain that the workmen sent out by him are skilled Craftsmen.

RITES AND DEGREES.

The Ancient York Rite of Freemasonry is the only rite recognized by the Grand Lodge of Indiana. It has absolute authority over and delegates authority to its subordinate Lodges to confer the degrees of Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft and Master Mason, and it also recognizes the degree of Past Master, which it requires Worshipful Masters-elect to be in possession of before they are qualified for installation.

PAST MASTER'S DEGREE.

When a member of a Lodge is elected to the office of Worshipful Master, if not in possession of the degree of Past Master, it must be conferred upon him in what is known as a convocation of Past Masters before he can be installed as Master of his Lodge.

When elected to that office, the Secretary must give him a certificate of his election, which should be in the form following, to-wit:

Hall of Lodge No....., F. & A. Masons.
Ind.,.....18...

To any Actual Past Master:

This is to certify, That at a stated meeting of the above named Lodge, held at the hall thereof on the.....day of 18.., Brother....., a Master Mason and a member of the aforesaid Lodge, was duly and lawfully elected Worshipful Master of said Lodge for the ensuing year.

[Seal.]

Witness, my signature and the seal
 of said Lodge the date first above
 written.

.....

Secretary.

If there is no Past Master in the Lodge competent to confer the degree, the Worshipful Master-elect must take the certificate to some Past Master of a neighboring Lodge. Three actual Past Masters may confer the degree, and when they confer the degree upon a Master-elect, they must furnish him with a certificate of that fact, which should be in the following form, to-wit:

Hall of Lodge No....., F. & A. Masons.
Ind.,.....18...

To any Past Master:

At a convocation of Past Masters, held in the hall of the above named Lodge, the following Past Masters being present, viz.: A. B., C. D., E. F., etc., a convocation of Past Masters was opened with the following officers, viz.:

.....W. M., ...S. W., ...J. W.,
Secretary, ...S. D., ...J. D.,
Tyler.

The Worshipful Master announced that a convocation of Past Masters was opened for the purpose of conferring the Past Master's degree upon Brother, Worshipful Master-elect of.....Lodge No., F. & A. Masons, said brother having furnished this convocation with a cer-

tificate of his election to said office. Thereupon Brother
was introduced and seated in the Oriental Chair
 in due form.

[Seal.]

Witness, my signature and the seal
 of.....Lodge No., the date
 first above written.

.....

Secretary of the Convocation.

The Master-elect will present this certificate to the
 Master of his Lodge, who will have it read and spread
 in full upon the records thereof on the night of the in-
 stallation of the officers of the Lodge.

It is neither right nor proper for the High Priest of
 a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons to confer the Past
 Master's degree upon a Master-elect, unless the High
 Priest himself has been duly elected and installed
 Master of a subordinate Lodge. An actual Past Mas-
 ter may install a Master-elect who has received the de-
 gree in a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, provided
 said brother can prove himself in possession of the de-
 gree by an examination, written or oral testimony. A
 Past Master receiving the degree in a Chapter is called
 a Virtual Past Master. Virtual Past Masters have
 been known to be present in a convocation of Past
 Masters, but this is neither right nor proper. Actual
 Past Masters alone have the right to open or to be
 present at a convocation of Past Masters.

PUBLIC CEREMONIES.

Without the presence of the Grand Master or his
 Special Deputy, Lodges may celebrate Saint John the
 Baptist's day, Saint John the Evangelist's day, and it
 may install its officers in public, and it may attend the
 funeral of a Master Mason.

When it celebrates either of the days, or performs the ceremonies named, its processions "must be separate and distinct" from any other organization.

When Lodges are constituted under charter, Masonic Halls dedicated, corner-stones of Masonic Halls and public buildings are laid, the Grand Master or his Special Deputy must be present and officiate. When a corner-stone is laid, or Masonic Hall dedicated, the Grand Master must preside, either in person or by Deputy. When the Grand Master has given his consent to the Lodge to accept the invitation to participate in the ceremonies, and has signified his intention to be present, either in person or by Deputy, the Lodge should then extend an invitation to all of the associate Grand Officers to be present. The Lodge should then wait until after they have answered as to whether they can be present. Should any of them decline to attend, the Grand Master should then be advised of that fact, that he may fill all vacancies, that the appointees may qualify themselves to render their parts in a way to reflect credit upon Freemasonry.

The greatest precaution should be observed in all public ceremonies of the Fraternity to see that each officer participating therein is qualified to perform his part, and also to see that the necessary working tools and elements are present and prepared for use. The working tools necessary for the dedication of halls and the laying of corner-stones are the Square, Level and Plumb, and the elements necessary are corn (wheat), wine and oil—these latter should be in silver goblets.

MASTER MASON'S FUNERAL.

A Lodge has the right to attend the funeral of any Master Mason, whether he was affiliated or not affiliated with a Lodge, provided the deceased requested it when in life, or provided his friends or his relatives request the Lodge to do so. The law nowhere makes it obligatory upon the Lodge to turn out as such to attend the funeral of a Master Mason. When a member of the Lodge dies, the Worshipful Master may call a meeting of his Lodge and submit the question of granting Masonic burial to a vote of the Lodge. If a Mason has utterly disregarded the laws of Freemasonry, or if his conduct in the community has been such as to reflect discredit upon himself, or if his burial by the Lodge would tend to humiliate the Lodge in the public eye, the Lodge should refuse to accord Masonic burial. But in no case should the Lodge refuse to attend the funeral of a brother if his misconduct has been winked at, or if it has not faithfully performed its duty to the Craft by bringing the offender before its bar and meting out to him any punishment due on account of violated law. And, in no case should a Lodge of Freemasons be called out to attend the funeral of a Master Mason in order to give him a post-mortem character.

When the Lodge has decided to attend the funeral of a Master Mason, the Worshipful Master should see that all things relating thereto are ready, that the preliminaries are complete, and he should advise with the relatives and friends of the deceased before appointing pall bearers. Their wishes in this matter should

be respected. If they desire pall bearers who are not Masons, gratify their wishes by permitting them to designate honorary pall bearers. If the deceased was a member of other organizations, do them the courtesy, also, to name honorary pall bearers, if they so desire. The duty of lowering the remains into the grave must be performed by the active Masonic pall bearers. The pall bearers, Marshal and Chaplain having been appointed and the ceremonies intended for the Lodge room having been performed, the Lodge should form a procession and go to the residence of the deceased, and the Master, accompanied by the Wardens and pall bearers, should enter the residence and take formal possession of the body, and the lodge should retain possession of it until it has lowered it into the grave and completed its ceremonies, after which it should step back and give other organizations an opportunity to perform their ceremonies. If there are no other organizations, the Lodge should return to its hall, and the Lodge should be closed. Everything should be done quietly, peaceably and with dignity.

RIGHTS OF VISITORS.

A Master Mason has the right to present himself at the door of a Masonic Lodge and request permission to visit it, so long as he remains a member of a Lodge in good standing. A non-affiliated Master Mason is possessed of the same right for six months after he has received his dimit. Bear in mind that the right herein considered is the right to ask admission as a visitor. The right to refuse admission to a visitor is an absolute right of the Lodge, and any member of the Lodge may object to a visitor, and the objecting member cannot be

required to assign his reasons therefor, neither is it proper to question him. If the admission of a visitor would mar the pleasure or happiness of a single member of the Lodge, the visitor cannot and should not be admitted. The harmony of the Lodge is over and above all things else. The rights of a Masonic visitor bear the same relation to the Lodge as the individual who may desire to visit your home. Many Masons get the idea that they have an undeniable right to visit; let them be undeceived; they have no such right, and I repeat—the only right they have is the right to ask permission to visit. After a Mason has remained a non-affiliate for a period of six months, he should not be permitted to visit a Lodge. All his rights have ceased, and, until he affiliates with a Lodge, he should be denied even Masonic intercourse. After six months he should be treated as though he had never been a Mason, if withholding his dimit and membership is known to be willful and without reason or cause. He who abandons Freemasonry and refuses to contribute to its support should be ostracised by Masons.

DEGREES—MONETARY VALUE.

The monetary value of the degrees of Freemasonry are fixed by the Grand Lodge. The Grand Lodge of Indiana has fixed the minimum fee to be paid by candidates at twenty dollars. The degrees cannot be conferred upon anyone until he has actually paid into the hands of the Secretary the lawful fee charged by the Lodge. A Lodge may by By-law fix the fee at a greater sum than twenty dollars, but it cannot make the sum less. A Lodge cannot charge a candidate the

lawful fee and then vote to make him a present of all or a part of it. In other words, it cannot nullify the law of the Grand Lodge by voting to remit the fee, nor by voting to return the same. Even ministers of the gospel must pay for the degrees of Freemasonry the same as anyone else, and the minister who would permit a Lodge to violate its law or the laws of the Grand Lodge by subterfuge or otherwise in order to give him the degrees is totally unworthy to be made a Mason, and disgraces his holy calling thereby. If your Lodge should resort to subterfuge to make a Mason of a minister without the payment of the monetary value therefor, you will be justified in casting a negative ballot against him, and may justify your act in your own eyes upon the grounds of the unlawfulness of the proceedings and the unworthiness of the candidate, provided he is cognizant of the unlawful act.

LODGE DUES.

Every Lodge has the right to require each member to pay a certain fixed sum for dues to the Lodge. It may also provide the time when the same is due and payable. The law also expressly provides that when the amount and time for payment are fixed, that the Lodge must collect the same if the member is able to pay. If the member is not able to pay the Lodge may remit the dues. The law of the Grand Lodge clearly implies that the Lodge ledger must be balanced each year, either by payment by the member or by a remission of the dues by the Lodge. The obligation to require dues to be paid, and the obligation to pay dues, is just as binding upon the Lodge as it is upon the in-

dividual member. A Lodge noted for its promptness in collecting its revenue will commend itself to prompt and methodical men. It demonstrates to the world that it has a very high appreciation of the dignity and worth of Masonic law. The charter of a Lodge having the backbone to enforce the law relating to the payment of annual dues will never be revoked by the Grand Lodge, because the Lodge that discards sentimentalism when it comes to collecting its revenues and requires all who are able to pay to do so at the time fixed in the By-Laws, may reasonably be expected to enforce all other laws of the Grand Lodge. The same obligation that requires a Mason to keep the secrets of Freemasonry also requires him to obey the By-Laws of his Lodge, as well as the General Regulations of the Grand Lodge. When a Lodge fails to enforce payment of dues at the time fixed in the By-Laws, it becomes a violator of the law, and may be punished for the same. Therefore, enforce the law.

DUES OF INDIGENT MEMBERS.

The dues of members who are "unable to pay" may be remitted by a vote of the Lodge at a stated meeting thereof. There is no authority given anywhere in the law for remitting the dues of any member who is able to pay the same. The dues of even a minister cannot be remitted if he is able to pay the same. When I see a brother rise in his place and move to remit the dues of a minister, I am sometimes tormented with the thought that perhaps he has not contributed of his substance to the support of the church and minister, and by making the motion to remit the dues of his

preacher thereby pays his "quarterage" to the church at the expense of the Lodge. It is, perhaps, uncharitable to harbor such thoughts, but how can it be avoided when it may be well known to the Lodge that the preacher receives three, four or even five thousand dollars salary per year, while there may be members of the Lodge who are glad to work for a much less sum, and whose integrity, manliness and Christian character rank equal with the minister, yet no one ever thinks of making a proposition to remit their dues until they get up in Lodge and state that they cannot in justice to themselves and their family pay their dues. I must confess that I cannot entertain an exalted opinion of an overpaid minister who can sit quietly and see his own dues remitted, and then witness the suspension of some poor brother, who perhaps on account of a large family and small income,—but whose pride will not permit him to arise and state his condition to the Lodge. In the Lodge "we meet upon the level;" this being true, treat all alike, and if Mr. Preacher is able to pay, and neglects or won't pay, give him the same kind of treatment exactly, as is awarded to the dollar-a-day man. The essence of the law is, that a Mason must be in indigent circumstances before the Lodge can remit his dues, and the Mason who assists in, or accepts the benefits derived by the remission of dues unlawfully, is lacking in the elements that go to make up the good and true man and Mason. There is no room in Freemasonry for the wealthy and high-salaried Mason who permits his Lodge (by remitting his dues) to violate the letter and the spirit of the law.

ANNUAL RETURNS.

Reports to the Grand Lodge must be made annually. There is no way to avoid it, and the work must be done within a stated period, viz., between the first day of January and the first day of March. Experience has taught me that the best time to make these reports is on the first day of January. The Masonic year closes with December 31st, and it necessarily follows that if the report is made on the first day of January, that it cannot be made to lap over into the new year. The fact that the officers of the Lodge may not have been installed is no excuse for postponing the work of making the body of the report. The page prepared for the names of the officers may be filled after the officers are installed, and the morning after the installation of the officers the Secretary should finish and mail one copy of the report to the Grand Secretary, and file the other copy. The Grand Secretary mails two blank reports to the Secretary of each Lodge in the State about the 20th day of December in each year. As soon as the Secretary receives them he should commence immediately to gather the facts required by the Grand Lodge. He should take the record of the Lodge and go through it carefully for the year to be reported, and take off on separate slips of paper the names of all who have been initiated, passed, raised, reinstated, affiliated, died, dimitted, suspended for non-payment of dues, suspended for other causes, and also the names of those expelled, being very particular to note the date, viz., day and month of the year. In doing this work read

each page of the Lodge record for the entire year, and when you come to the name of anyone whose name should be entered under either of the heads specified above, enter it on the slip of paper designed for the names of its particular class. In this way you cannot make a mistake. When the record has thus been examined, enter the names in one copy of the report under the proper head, writing the Christian name in full. Never use initials in writing the names of members—initials mean nothing, and it is often important to know the full name of a member. When you have completed this part of the report, lay it aside until the first day of January. On that day complete the report by entering the names of the members of the Lodge under the head provided for them, and in accordance with the instructions found at the head of each page. When this is done, check it with the report of the previous year, to learn whether you have omitted any names, and if, after you have checked it you find it correct, then copy it upon the other blank, which, when copied, send to the Grand Secretary. If you will pursue this course, your reports will always be found correct. There is no excuse whatever for an incorrect report, and there would be none if Secretaries would make and check their reports in the manner indicated. At least three-fourths of the annual reports received by the Grand Secretary require correction. Some Secretaries even go so far as to say that they have not the time to verify their reports, are not certain whether they are correct, and ask the Grand Secretary to see that they are correct and report errors to them. The Grand Secretary checks all reports with

the reports of the previous year, but it is not fair or just to ask him to do the work you are paid to do, and the work you obligated yourself to do when you solemnly repeated your vow of office.

I desire to impress upon the Secretary the great importance of writing the names of the members plain and distinct. If you have a member who insists on writing his name by initials, pay no attention to his idiosyncrasy, but obtain and record his full name, and in all of your communications or reports to the Grand Lodge, when you use his name be certain to write at least one of his Christian names in full. Send your report to the Grand Secretary the day you complete it, and if you do not hear from him within five days after you mail it, write to him about it.

There is one other point I desire to impress upon the Secretary, and that is, when he makes up the list of the dead, that he ascertain and report the date of death. If your Lodge did not bury the brother, go to see, or write to his family or friends and obtain the date when he died. When the Secretary sends in his report showing two or three dead men, without giving the date when either died, it reflects discredit upon the Lodge, and entitles the Secretary of such Lodge to rank as both careless, and, without a just appreciation of the importance of the duties of his position.

The annual reports made by Lodges are bound in volumes of convenient size each year, and are kept in fire-proof vaults for reference for all time to come. The records of a Lodge are often left from month to month in a wooden desk in a frame or non-fire-proof

building; a fire breaks out, and books, records and everything else belonging to the Lodge are swept off the face of the earth. In such cases the Grand Secretary's office can produce a correct list and state the fact of the suspension or expulsion of any of the members, provided the Secretary has made correct reports. Repeated calls are made upon the Grand Secretary by Lodges unfortunate in the loss of their books. If the Secretary of the Lodge cannot or will not take the time to make a correct report of the members of the Lodge one time in each year, he should resign and give the Lodge a chance to elect some one who has pride in his Lodge—some one who is willing to sacrifice his time in order to give his Lodge standing and character among the Lodges of the State. He who fails to discharge his duties fully and faithfully violates his oath of office—an oath just as binding as any other obligation voluntarily assumed by him. Brother Secretary, recall your solemn vow, and keep it prominently before you while making your annual report to the Grand Lodge.

FAILURE TO MAKE ANNUAL REPORT—PENALTY.

If a Lodge fails to make an annual report, and fails to pay Grand Lodge dues at the time required by law, it is within the power of the Grand Master to suspend the charter of each offending Lodge until it complies with the law.

When a Lodge is suspended under such circumstances, the Lodge cannot meet for any purpose until the order of the Grand Master is revoked by him, or

by the Grand Lodge. Through the negligence of the Secretary, and the thoughtlessness of the Worshipful Master in not seeing that the law is obeyed, a stain is often placed upon the record of the Lodge. When the Worshipful Master receives a notice of the suspension of his Lodge, he should read it to the members of his Lodge, and the Secretary should enter it in full upon the record of the Lodge. The Master should inform the members that the Lodge cannot be opened until the cause for the suspension is removed. Then, when the report is made, Grand Lodge dues paid, and the order of suspension revoked, the order revoking the suspension must also be made a matter of record. Thus is the Lodge humiliated and two black pages made to deface its record because of the unfaithfulness of its officers.

OFFENSES AGAINST MASONRY.

To attempt to enumerate the offenses against Freemasonry is almost an endless task. The Grand Lodge, in its General Regulations, says, that "Whatever is a breach of good morals, contrary to the precepts of the Holy Scriptures, or a violation of the laws of this State, or of the United States, is an offense against the principles of Masonry." The section of law here quoted covers every penal statute adopted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana, as well as the penal statutes enacted by the Congress of the United States of America; not only these, but it includes everything inhibited by the Holy Scriptures. The law goes still further and denies "the power of any legislative body to legalize that which is morally

wrong.” Therefore, if the General Assembly should enact a law legalizing anything condemned by the moral law, a Lodge may, under the law of the Grand Body, maintain an action against a member who may do or perform the moral wrong legalized by the legislative body.

Lodges are enjoined to promptly punish any member found guilty of the violation of any of the offenses prohibited by the section of law quoted.

INTOXICATING LIQUORS.

It is an offense against Freemasonry for a member to use, manufacture or sell “intoxicating liquors to be used as a beverage.” The section of law relating to this subject expressly provides that a brother must be admonished by his Lodge before he can be tried for this particular offense. Therefore, when it becomes known to a Lodge that one of its members is manufacturing, selling or using intoxicating liquors as a beverage, the Lodge should appoint a committee to wait upon him to admonish and counsel him to refrain from the prohibited practice, and, if he does not heed the brotherly admonition, but persists in the violation of the law, it is then the duty of the Lodge to bring him before its bar and try him, and if found guilty, it must suspend or expel him. The law plainly fixes only two grades of punishment for the offenses specified under the above head.

The Grand Lodge also prohibits Lodges from conferring the degrees of Masonry upon anyone who is in

the habit of drinking to intoxication, or upon one who sells or manufactures intoxicants "to be used as a beverage." The manufacture or sale of intoxicants for medicinal or manufacturing purposes is not prohibited by the Grand Lodge law.

DISOBEDIENCE AND DISTURBER.

When the Lodge is opened it is unlawful for a Mason to disobey the Worshipful Master, and it is also unlawful for a Mason to disturb the harmony of the Lodge. Neighborhood and family quarrels, business and church or religious matters, cannot be aired in Lodges, neither can a Mason conduct himself in a disagreeable or offensive manner towards his brother when in open Lodge—each must be a gentleman, and treat each other in a manner becoming a gentleman, and should a Mason violate in any one of these particulars, he may be reprimanded, suspended or expelled; and, it must also be borne in mind that a brother cannot be suspended or expelled for the first offense. The Worshipful Master should call the attention of an offender to the law embracing these offenses, and remind him that a repetition of the same will subject him to punishment by the Lodge. Under the Regulations governing these offenses a Mason may be prohibited from bringing anything "offensive or defensive" into the Lodge, and he may also be prohibited from using improper language to and of a brother Mason—in fine, every subject which might endanger the peace and harmony of the Lodge may be excluded therefrom by enforcing the law upon the subject.

ADVERTISING.

It is unmasonic to use Masonic emblems to advertise your business. At the annual meeting of the Grand Lodge held May 25, 1897, the Grand Lodge adopted a resolution prohibiting the use of the words "Mason" and "Masonic" to advertise the business or calling of anyone, and particularly of insurance and other similar associations. It is a Masonic offense to use or make use of Masonic terms and emblems for the purpose of pecuniary gain, and anyone doing so may be disciplined by the Lodge within whose jurisdiction he may reside.

NON-PAYMENT OF DUES.

Non-payment of dues has been a prolific source of trouble, annoyance and loss to Lodges. The Grand Lodge has pronounced it an offense against Masonry punishable by "indefinite suspension." Mistaken "disposition to treat with favor" offenders against the law requiring members to pay their dues at the time they are due and payable has cost Lodges vast sums of money and large numbers of members. It is wrong to the member as well as to the Lodge to permit him to owe more than one year's dues. If a Lodge permits one lapse, it is quite sure to become lax in the collection of dues, and by so doing aid in making it almost impossible for the delinquent to pay his dues. The sum grows and piles up until it becomes a scarecrow to keep the delinquent away from Lodge, and results in the suspension of the member, while if the Lodge had obeyed the law and required the member to pay when he only owed one year's dues, the delinquent would have been saved to the Lodge.

The safe and Masonic way is to square each account annually. If a member is unable to pay, remit his dues. If able to pay, make him do so, or suspend him when he owes one year. The ledgers of dead Lodges testify stronger than words, that nine out of every ten owe their downfall to a failure to collect dues when due. Begin now; square your books, and then keep them square. It is a singular fact that men will stay away from Lodge when delinquent. A Lodge managed upon good sound business principles will always be in a healthy condition, both financially and numerically, and besides, it will always be in condition to render assistance to those deserving it.

PENALTIES.

The Grand Lodge of Indiana recognizes four penalties that may be inflicted for violations of Masonic law, viz.: "Reprimand, suspension for a definite time, suspension indefinitely, and expulsion." No other punishment can be inflicted. A Lodge cannot assess a fine against a member, neither can it prevent him from voting in the Lodge so long as he remains in good standing. Good standing means one who is not under sentence of suspension or expulsion. Before a member can be deprived of any of his rights, he must be tried, adjudged guilty, and one of the penalties above recited affixed in the lawful way, and it matters not how aggravating the offense may have been, the Lodge cannot publish to the world the punishment of one of its members.

The punishment of a member, like any other Masonic business transacted by the Lodge, must be kept

in the breasts of the members of the Lodge. Publication would be additional punishment; this the Grand Lodge prohibits by specifically prescribing the penalties which a Lodge may award for the various offenses against Freemasonry.

LODGE-ROOM.

A Lodge may rent its Lodge room to a Masonic organization, and it may use its hall for strictly Masonic purposes. It is therefore unlawful to rent or use it for any other purpose.

If a Lodge violates the law upon which this statement is based, it lays itself liable to suspension or arrest of its charter, and the Grand Lodge may revoke the same.

The Grand Master cannot allow an organization not Masonic to meet in the hall of a Masonic Lodge.

ESOTERIC INSTRUCTION.

A Master Mason has the right to instruct his own Lodge upon "the esoteric and ceremonial ritual," but he has no right whatever to instruct any Lodge of which he is not a member, without express authority to do so from the Grand Master. Worshipful Masters should promptly seat any visitor who attempts to lecture him or his Lodge, unless he can produce a commission from the Grand Master authorizing him to give esoteric instruction. The Worshipful Master is responsible to the Grand Lodge for the kind and character of work performed by his Lodge. He is not answerable to visitors.

CHARGES.

Any affiliated Master Mason may prefer charges against a Mason. A non-affiliated Master Mason cannot prefer charges.

Charges must be brought by a Master Mason, and it is as much the duty of one member as another to begin proceedings against an offender. There is no greater obligation resting upon the Junior Warden than upon any other member in the matter of instituting proceedings in a Lodge looking to the punishment of offenders against the law. When the Lodge, by resolution or otherwise, orders charges preferred against a member or against a Mason, it should appoint a committee to formulate and present the same. The charges must be made in writing, and must be signed by the party making them. The names of the witnesses must be attached to or endorsed upon the charges, that the accused may know what he must meet and the witness who may confront him. When the charges are ready to present, they should be handed to the Secretary at a stated meeting of the Lodge. Under the proper order of business the Secretary must read the charges to the Lodge. After they have been read, the Worshipful Master must fix the time for the trial, which in no case can lawfully take place until the expiration of at least ten days. The accused must be given ten days' notice, that he may prepare his defense. To put it stronger, the accused must have ten days from the time he receives from the hands of the Secretary a copy of the charges and the notice of the time and place of the trial. The Secre-

tary must copy or record the charges in the record of the Lodge, and make an entry also showing the time fixed by the Worshipful Master for the trial. For the benefit of those inexperienced in matters of this sort, the following is given as a form for the Lodge record in the preliminary steps relating to charges:

The Secretary read the following charges and specifications against Brother ———, a Master Mason and a member of ——— Lodge No. —, to-wit:

*To the Worshipful Master, Wardens and Members of.....
Lodge No.....:*

The undersigned, being a Master Mason, and a member of.....Lodge No., situated in the (city or town) of..... county of.....and State of....., hereby charges Brother, a Master Mason and a member of Lodge No., with gross unmasonic conduct, in this, to-wit:

Specification 1st. That the said Brother....., on or about the day of....., 18., at the county of, and State of....., and within the jurisdiction of the Lodge aforesaid, did then and there use profane language by taking the name of God in vain, in violation of his obligations and to the scandal and disgrace of Masonry.

Specification 2d. That the said Brother.....did on or about the.....day if....., 18., at the (town or city) of, county of....., and State of....., with force and violence, in a rude and angry manner strike, assault, and inflict serious bodily injury upon the person of Brother..... a Master Mason and a member of Lodge No., to the scandal and disgrace of Freemasonry, and in violation of the General Regulations of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Indiana.

(Signed).....

Witnesses:

.....
.....

Thereupon the Worshipful Master announced that the trial of Brother —— would be held at the hall of said Lodge at the next stated meeting thereof, and ordered the Secretary to serve a true copy of the charges and specifications upon the accused, and notify him of the time and place of trial; the Worshipful Master also ordered summonses issued and served upon the witnesses.

It is essential that all charges, and that everything in connection therewith, shall be entered in full upon the Lodge record.

The Secretary must make a complete copy of the charges and specifications, and serve a copy of the same upon the accused, and notify him of the time and place of the trial. This notice may be served in person or by mail. The law says that if the accused "reside at a distance," that the notice may be served by mail. My interpretation of the law is that all charges may be served by mail, because every brother resides at a distance from the Lodge. Some reside at a greater distance than others, but distance intervenes between the residence of every Mason and the meeting place of his Lodge. However, when the United States mail is made use of in serving notice upon an accused brother, it should be sent by registered letter; by so doing the Secretary would be armed with a receipt for the notice, thereby establishing the fact of the service. Never lose sight of the fact that a brother is presumed to be innocent until proven guilty, and that he is entitled to every facility within the power of the Lodge to enable him to establish his

innocence. Masons do themselves violence and the accused a great wrong by discussing his case while proceedings are pending, and before the evidence has been submitted to the Lodge. The Lodge is the jury before whom the case is to be tried, and the members of the jury should each for himself refrain from forming any opinion as to the merits of the case until the same has been submitted to him, after hearing all the testimony, both for and against the accused, it matters not how aggravating the case.

The Secretary should endorse upon the back of the original charges the fact of service, how and when made, and in his testimony before the Lodge should give these facts, that they may be made a part of the record. The accused may file an answer to the charges in the form of a general denial, or he may specify provocation, or other mitigating circumstances, and should he do so, his answer must also be made a part of the record. The Secretary owes it to himself, the Lodge and the accused to make a record of everything pertaining to the trial.

The accused may select any affiliated Master Mason in Indiana to act as his counsel, and if he fails to select counsel, it is then the duty of the Worshipful Master to appoint some competent brother to appear for him. If the counsel is appointed by the Master, and the accused fails to attend the trial, the counsel must, on behalf of the defendant, enter a "plea of not guilty." If the defendant is present, he may plead either guilty or not guilty; if guilty, the Lodge must inflict a penalty. If he pleads not guilty, the trial must begin

with an examination of the witnesses for the prosecution, to be followed by testimony of defense, and this may be followed by rebuttal evidence, both on the part of the prosecution and the defense. The attorneys may then be heard, and the Worshipful Master may, if he believes it necessary, call the attention of the Lodge to the law bearing upon the case. The defendant then retires, and the (jury) Lodge finds a verdict of guilty or not guilty, and inflicts the penalty or acquits the accused.

If the accused is acquitted, he should be called into the Lodge and informed of that fact. If found guilty, the Secretary should notify him under the seal of the Lodge of the finding and the penalty inflicted.

MASONIC TRIAL.

The remarks under the head of "charges" are preliminary to the trial which follows.

The trial of a brother Mason for an offense against the laws of Masonry is an important and very solemn duty devolving upon a Masonic Lodge. It must be conducted in accordance with the General Regulations of the Grand Lodge, and great care must be exercised by the Worshipful Master and Secretary to see that the Lodge record contains, first, the charges; second, the answer of the accused; third, the testimony of the prosecution; fourth, the testimony of the defense; fifth, the rebutting testimony of the prosecution; sixth, the rebutting testimony of the defense; seventh, the finding of the Lodge; and eighth, the penalty inflicted. Every word of the testimony must

be taken down by the Secretary, both questions and answers, and must then be copied into the record book. It is absolutely necessary that this be done. If exceptions are taken to the rulings of the Worshipful Master upon the law or the admissibility of any testimony, the Secretary must note any and all exceptions. The finding of a Lodge is not final, because either party may appeal to the Grand Lodge, in which case the Secretary can easily make a transcript or copy of the record of the case to forward to the Grand Secretary for the use of the Grand Lodge.

Charges against a Mason cannot be heard or considered by a committee. The Lodge must hear and determine the same. When the evidence has been heard by the Lodge, "and the prosecution and defendant, by themselves or counsel," have been heard, the defendant must then retire, and the Lodge must then take a "separate ballot on each specific charge," and if it finds him guilty of one or more of the specifications, it must affix one of the penalties prescribed by the Grand Lodge, which are, first, reprimand; second, suspension for a definite time; third, suspension indefinitely; and fourth, expulsion; and the vote must be taken on the penalty of expulsion first in all cases, except when the charge is for non-payment of dues. In cases of this sort, under the ruling of the Grand Lodge, the Lodge finds a brother guilty of non-payment of dues, and the Worshipful Master declares such convicted brother suspended indefinitely. When definite suspension is determined by the Lodge, the time-length may be fixed by motion, by vote taken in the same manner as upon any other question.

When guilt is established, punishment must follow. Penalty must be fixed. If, after the Lodge has voted upon each grade of punishment, the Lodge has failed to inflict either penalty by a majority vote, it is then the imperative duty of the Secretary to certify the fact of the failure to inflict penalty to the Grand Master. This certificate should contain a copy of the charges against the accused, together with a copy of the evidence, that any action taken upon the matter by the Grand Master may be based upon substantial grounds. It should be an unbiased statement of the case, that the Grand Master may determine the sufficiency or insufficiency of the evidence to convict, that he may determine whether the moral element in the Lodge possesses sufficient force to vindicate the law, as well as to enable him to determine whether persecution had any part in the prosecution.

When such certificate is received by the Grand Master, if the evidence was strong enough beyond a reasonable doubt to convict, he may arrest the charter of the Lodge. If, on the other hand, a doubt exists in his mind as to the sufficiency of the evidence to convict, he may dismiss the case or order a new trial, at which trial he may preside either in person or by Deputy.

TESTIMONY.

In a Masonic trial the witnesses are not required to make oath or affirmation. The Lodge must hear and weigh their testimony upon their word of honor.

If a brother has been convicted of an offense in any court, it is competent to admit as testimony a certified

copy of the records of the court wherein the defendant was convicted. While the law of the Grand Lodge says that "the rules of evidence shall be, so far as applicable, the same as in courts of law," yet I do not believe that it was ever intended that there should be any hair-splitting in arriving at the facts—"truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth," is the desideratum, and the Worshipful Master sitting as the judge should be alert and see that the witnesses are given every opportunity to give their evidence, and should protect them from any species of badgering.

EFFECT OF PENALTY.

When a Mason is suspended or expelled, all Masonic intercourse with him must cease. He is not entitled to any of the rights, privileges or benefits of Freemasonry.

PENALTY—WHEN IN FORCE.

A penalty is in force from and after the vote inflicting it, and if a Mason refuses to submit to the penalty of reprimand, he then stands suspended indefinitely.

PENALTY—HOW REMOVED.

The Lodge inflicting the penalty may remove the same, and the penalty may be removed or modified by the Grand Lodge. In cases of suspension for non-payment of dues, a Mason may restore himself to membership by paying his dues within one year from the date of suspension. After the expiration of one year, he must pay all dues that were charged against him at the time of his suspension, and must then petition the Lodge to restore him to membership, which

petition must be presented at a stated meeting of the Lodge, be referred to a committee, and then lie over four weeks, when the committee will report and the ballot be taken upon his petition for restoration, and if a majority of the members present vote in his favor, he shall be declared restored to membership and be so notified by the Secretary, and if not restored, the Secretary must so inform him. The dues of a member may be remitted, and he may be restored to membership in that way, but to do so there must be a petition to that effect, setting forth inability to pay, and this petition must take the same course as in the case last mentioned.

To restore a Mason who has been suspended for any other cause than non-payment of dues, a petition must be presented to the Lodge, and it must be referred to a committee and lie over at least four weeks, when, upon report of committee, ballot must be had, and if he receives a unanimous vote he must be declared restored to membership, while, on the other hand, if he receives only a majority vote, he must be declared restored to the condition of a non-affiliated Mason, and if restored to the condition of a non-affiliate only, the Secretary must furnish him with a certificate of that fact, under the seal of the Lodge.

NEW TRIALS—HOW GRANTED.

Within ninety days after the trial of a brother, or within the same period after he has been informed of the action of the Lodge, the Lodge that disciplined him may grant him a new trial. A brother desiring a

new trial must make his application to the Lodge, and must state in his application the reasons for the same. The reasons recognized by the General Regulations of the Grand Lodge are as follows: "First, newly discovered evidence; second, finding contrary to evidence; third, finding contrary to Masonic usage; fourth, penalty excessive." Should a Lodge refuse to grant a new trial, the Grand Master may review the proceedings had at the trial, and may, at his discretion, order the Lodge to grant a new trial.

APPEALS—HOW AND WHEN TAKEN.

Appeals may be taken as follows:

First. From a decision of the Worshipful Master to the Grand Lodge.

Second. From an action of the Lodge to the Grand Lodge.

Third. An appeal must be taken within one year from the date of a decision, or the action of a Lodge.

Fourth. Notice of an appeal must be given to the Lodge in writing.

Fifth. The appeal must be in writing, and must contain a statement of the case, and must state the grounds or reasons for the appeal.

APPEALS—DUTY OF SECRETARY.

When notice of appeal, in writing, has been given to a Lodge, it is then the duty of the Secretary, without delay, and without waiting for any order of the Lodge, to immediately copy all the minutes of the Lodge relating to the subject, also to copy all papers

bearing upon the case, certify the same under the seal of the Lodge, and forward the same to the Grand Secretary. In other words, he must forward to the Grand Secretary a complete transcript of all the proceedings and papers relating to the case.

The transcript in all appeals must be filed with the Grand Secretary ten days before an annual meeting of the Grand Lodge.

GRAND MASTER—HOW RECEIVED.

When the Grand Master visits a Lodge, he should be received in the following manner:

1. The Grand Master should be in a room without.
2. The Lodge should be opened in form by the Worshipful Master.
3. The Worshipful Master should inform the Lodge that the Grand Master is in waiting.
4. The Worshipful Master should then appoint a committee to wait upon the Grand Master and introduce him to the Senior Deacon and committee.
5. The Senior Deacon and committee should then retire and escort the Grand Master into the Lodge, in front of the altar.
6. When the altar is reached and the customary salutations given, the Senior Deacon should introduce the Grand Master to the Worshipful Master.
7. The Worshipful Master should then arise and call up the Lodge, welcome the Grand Master, and

call upon the Lodge to unite with him in giving the *Grand Honors to the Grand Master.

8. The Worshipful Master should then invite the Grand Master to the East.

9. When the Grand Master has reached the East, the Worshipful Master should then introduce him to the Lodge, present him with the gavel, and request him to preside.

RECEPTION OF OTHER GRAND OFFICERS AND PAST GRAND MASTERS.

The same courtesies should be extended to Past Grand Masters and to other Grand Officers as are extended to the Grand Master, except that it is not necessary to present them with the gavel, neither is it necessary to ask them to preside.

LETTER-WRITING.

When a question is raised in a Lodge about which there are varying opinions, the Secretary of the Lodge should be instructed by the Lodge or the Worshipful Master to write to the Grand Master for his opinion. This letter, when written, should be submitted to the Worshipful Master before it goes out, and before it is sent, the seal of the Lodge should be affixed to it.

It is a discourtesy to the Worshipful Master for

*NOTE.—Grand Honors are given as follows:

First. Strike the palm of the left hand with the palm of the right hand, three times.

Second. Strike the palm of the right hand with the palm of the left hand, three times.

Third. Strike the palm of the left hand with the palm of the right hand, three times.

members of the Lodge in their individual capacity to write to the Grand Master for a "club" to hold over the Worshipful Master. Frankness and fraternal courtesy should mark our conduct and actions with reference to the decisions or opinions of the lawfully chosen and duly installed Worshipful Master of the Lodge.

OPINIONS OF GRAND AND PAST GRAND OFFICERS.

The opinions of Grand Officers other than the Grand Master are not binding upon the Lodge, neither are the opinions of Past Grand Masters binding. Their opinions may be valuable as giving light and information upon questions arising, but the action of the Worshipful Master cannot be controlled by them; therefore, their opinions should not be sought for the purpose of use as a menace to the Worshipful Master.

LODGES—HOW CONSTITUTED.

When a Lodge is constituted under charter, the ceremony must be performed by the Grand Master or by a Special Deputy appointed by him for that purpose. When a Special Deputy is appointed to constitute a Lodge, he must be either the Worshipful Master of a chartered Lodge or an actual Past Master. There is a long form set out in most of our Masonic Monitors for constituting a Lodge, which may be followed if the ceremony is public, and it may also be performed if none but Masons are present. Having long been impressed with the idea that the form above referred to is tedious and tiresome, I have formulated and adopted for my use, the following

SHORT FORM FOR CONSTITUTING NEW LODGES.

1. Examine the dimits of the petitioners for the new Lodge.
2. Have the charter of the new Lodge read and formally accepted by the members of the proposed new Lodge.
3. Open the Lodge on the third degree.
4. Install the officers of the Lodge.
5. After the officers are installed and duly proclaimed as such, declare ——— Lodge No. — a lawfully constituted Lodge this ——— day of ———, 18—.

Before installing the Worshipful Master of the new Lodge, the Grand Master or the Special Deputy officiating must see that the Past Master's degree has been conferred upon him. If not in possession of the degree, it must be conferred upon him before he is installed.

CEREMONIES OF CONSTITUTING AND CONSECRATING NEW
LODGES—LONG FORM.

The Grand Lodge will meet in a hall convenient to the new Lodge and will be opened on the third degree. The members of the proposed new Lodge will meet in their hall, when a messenger will be sent to the Grand Master, or his presiding Deputy, informing him that.....Lodge No.. is prepared and ready to be constituted into a regular Lodge of Freemasons. The messenger then returns and reports that the Grand Lodge will enter at once to perform the ceremony of constituting the Lodge.

The Grand Lodge will then form a procession and march to the hall of the new Lodge. After the Grand Master and

his officers have entered and reached the center of the hall, the Master of the new Lodge rises and calls up the proposed new Lodge, and causes the Grand Honors to be given to the Grand Master. The Grand Master and his officers take the official stations in the Lodge.

The Grand Lodge is now purged, and all except the Worshipful Master and Past Masters are required to retire. The Past Master's degree is now conferred upon the proposed Worshipful Master. When this ceremony is completed the others are again admitted to the Grand Lodge. The officers and members of the new Lodge are now formed in front of the Grand Master; the first line will be composed of the officers of the Lodge, the second and third lines members of the new Lodge. The Deputy Grand Master then arises and addresses the Grand Master thus:

“Most Worshipful Grand Master: The brethren who stand before you do now desire, to be constituted into a regular Lodge of Freemasons.

The Grand Master orders the Grand Secretary to read the charter of the new Lodge, after which the Grand Master will say:

Most Worshipful Grand Master. We will now proceed to constitute these brethren into a regular Lodge of Freemasons, according to ancient custom and usage.

“In the name of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge, I now constitute and form you, my good brethren, into a Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons. From henceforth I empower you to act as a regular Lodge, constituted in conformity to the rites of our Order, and the charges of our Ancient and Honorable Fraternity; and may the Supreme Architect of the Universe prosper, direct and counsel you in all your doings.”

The jewels are then delivered to the Grand Marshal, who will present them to the Grand Master.

The Grand Marshal now presents the officers-elect to the Grand Master, saying:

INSTALLATION CEREMONIES.

“Most Worshipful Grand Master: I present to you the several officers of this proposed new Lodge.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master will thereupon arise, call up the Lodge, and address the officers of the proposed new Lodge as follows:

Brethren: Before proceeding to invest you with the honors and responsibilities of the office to which you have been respectively elected and appointed, it becomes my duty to administer to you the obligation of your office. You will therefore repeat after me that

OBLIGATION.

I, ..., do solemnly promise and swear that I will support and maintain the Constitution, Laws and General Regulations of the Grand Lodge of the State of Indiana, and that I will, to the utmost of my knowledge and ability, discharge the duties of the office with which I am now about to be invested. So help me God.

The Grand Master will then say, “Brethren, let us pray.” The members all standing, the Grand Master, or some suitable brother selected for that purpose, will offer the following

PRAYER.

Great Architect of the Universe! Maker and Ruler of all worlds! We most humbly invoke Thee to give us, at this and at all times, *wisdom* in all our doings, *strength* of mind in all our difficulties, and the beauty of *harmony* in all our communications. Grant, O Lord our God, that those who are now about to be

invested with the government of this Lodge may be endowed with wisdom to instruct their brethren in all their duties. May *brotherly love, relief* and *truth* always prevail among the members of this Lodge. Bless all our brethren, wheresoever dispersed, and grant speedy relief to all who are either oppressed or distressed. We affectionately commend to Thee all the members of Thy whole family; and may they increase in grace, in the knowledge of Thee, and in love of each other. Finally, may we finish all our work here below with Thy divine approbation, and then have our transition from this earthly abode to Thy heavenly Temple above, there to enjoy glory and bliss ineffable and eternal. Amen.

Response. So mote it be.

The Lodge will now be seated, when the Grand Marshal will present the Master-elect for installation, as follows:

Most Worshipful Grand Master: I present our worthy brother, ..., to be installed Master of this Lodge. I find him to be of good morals, true and trusty, and a lover of our whole Fraternity, wheresoever dispersed over the face of the earth, and I doubt not that he will discharge his duties with fidelity.

The Grand Master will thereupon address the Master-elect as follows:

Brother: Previous to your investiture, it is necessary that you should signify your assent to those ancient charges and regulations which point out the duty of a Master of a Lodge.

I. You agree to be a good man and true, and strictly to obey the moral law.

II. You agree to be a peaceable citizen, and cheer-

fully to conform to the laws of the country in which you reside.

III. You promise not to be concerned in plots and conspiracies against government; but patiently submit to the decisions of the supreme legislature.

IV. You agree to pay a proper respect to the civil magistrates, to work diligently, live creditably, and act honorably by all men.

V. You agree to hold in veneration the original rulers and patrons of the Order of Masonry, and their regular successors, supreme and subordinate, according to their stations; and to submit to the awards and resolutions of your brethren, when convened in every case consistent with the Constitutions of the Order.

VI. You agree to avoid private piques and quarrels, and to guard against intemperance and excess.

VII. You agree to be cautious in character and behavior, courteous to your brethren and faithful to your Lodge.

VIII. You promise to respect genuine brethren, and to discountenance impostors, and all dissenters from the original plan of Masonry.

IX. You agree to promote the general good of society, to cultivate the social virtues, and to propagate the knowledge of the art.

X. You promise to pay homage to the Grand Master for the time being, and to his officers when duly installed; and strictly to conform to every edict of the Grand Lodge, or general assembly of Masons, that is not subversive of the principles and groundwork of Masonry.

XI. You admit that it is not in the power of any

man, or body of men, to make innovations in the body of Masonry.

XII. You promise a regular attendance on the committees and communications of the Grand Lodge, on receiving proper notice, and to pay attention to all the duties of Masonry on convenient occasions.

XIII. You admit that no new Lodge shall be formed without the permission of the Grand Lodge, and that no countenance be given to an irregular Lodge, or to any person clandestinely initiated therein, being contrary to the ancient charges of the Order.

XIV. You admit that no person can be regularly made a Mason in, or admitted a member of, any regular Lodge without previous notice and due inquiry into his character.

XV. You agree that no visitor shall be received into your Lodge without due examination, and producing proper vouchers of his having been initiated in a regular Lodge.

These are the Regulations of Free and Accepted Masons. Do you submit to these charges and promise to support these Regulations, as Masters have done in all ages before you?

The Master-elect will answer, "I do." The Grand Master will then direct the Grand Marshal to invest him with the insignia of his office, and the furniture and implements of the Lodge, after which he will address him as follows:

Brother: In consequence of your cheerful conformity to the Charges and Regulations of the Order, you are now to be installed Master of this Lodge, in full confidence of your care, skill and capacity to govern the same.

The various implements of the profession are em-

blematical of our conduct in life, and, upon occasions like this, are carefully enumerated.

The *Holy Writings*, that great light in Masonry, will guide you to all truth; it will direct your paths to the temple of happiness, and point out to you the whole duty of man.

The *Square* teaches us to regulate our actions by the rule and line, and harmonize our conduct by the principles of morality and virtue.

The *Compass* teaches us to limit our desires in every station; that, rising to eminence by merit, we may live respected and die regretted.

The *Rule* directs that we should punctually observe our duty, press forward in the path of virtue, and, neither inclining to the right nor the left, in all our actions have eternity in view.

The *Line* teaches the criterion of moral rectitude, to avoid dissimulation in conversation and action, and to direct our steps to the path which leads to a glorious immortality.

The *Book of Constitutions* you are to search at all times. Cause it to be read in your Lodge, that none may pretend ignorance of the excellent precepts it enjoins.

You will also receive in charge the *By-Laws* of your Lodge, which you are to see carefully and punctually executed.

The Grand Marshal will now invest each of the remaining officers-elect with the insignia of his office, and then severally introduce them to the Grand Master, who will deliver to each the appropriate charge of his office, as follows:

THE SENIOR WARDEN.

Brother: You are elected Senior Warden of this Lodge, and are now invested with the badge of your office.

The *Level* demonstrates that we are descended from the same stock, partake of the same nature, and share the same hope; and though distinctions among men are necessary to preserve subordination, yet no eminence of station should make us forget that we are brethren, for he who is placed on the lowest spoke of fortune's wheel may be entitled to our regard; because a time will come, and the wisest knows not how soon, when all distinctions but that of goodness shall cease, and death, the grand leveler of human greatness, reduce us to the same state.

Your regular attendance on our stated meetings is essentially necessary. In the absence of the Master you are to govern the Lodge; in his presence you are to assist him in the government of it. I firmly rely on your knowledge of Masonry, and attachment to the Lodge, for the faithful discharge of the duties of this important trust.—*Look well to the West.*

THE JUNIOR WARDEN.

Brother: You are elected Junior Warden of this Lodge, and are now invested with the badge of your office.

The *Plumb* admonishes us to walk uprightly in our several stations, to hold the scale of justice in equal poise, and to make our passions and prejudices coincide with the line of our duty.

To you is committed the superintendence of the Craft

during the hours of refreshment; it is, therefore, indispensably necessary that you should not only be temperate and discreet in the indulgence of your own inclinations, but carefully observe that none of the Craft be suffered to convert the purposes of refreshment into intemperance and excess.

Your regular and punctual attendance is particularly requested, and I have no doubt that you will faithfully execute the duty which you owe to your present appointment.—*Look well to the South.*

THE TREASURER.

Brother: You are elected Treasurer of this Lodge. It is your duty to receive all moneys from the hands of the Secretary, keep just and regular accounts of the same, and pay them out at the Worshipful Master's will and pleasure, with the consent of the Lodge. I trust your regard for the Fraternity will prompt you to the faithful discharge of the duties of your office.

THE SECRETARY.

Brother: You are elected Secretary of this Lodge. It is your duty to observe the Worshipful Master's will and pleasure, to record the proceedings of the Lodge, to receive all moneys due the Lodge and pay them into the hands of the Treasurer, taking his receipt for the same.

Your good inclination to Masonry and this Lodge, I hope, will induce you to discharge the duties of your office with fidelity, and, by so doing, you will merit the esteem and applause of your brethren.

SENIOR AND JUNIOR DEACONS.

Brethren: You are elected Deacons of this Lodge. It is your province to attend on the Master and Wardens, and to act as their proxies in the active duties of the Lodge, such as the reception of candidates into the different degrees of Masonry, the introduction and accommodation of visitors, and the immediate practice of our rites. The *Square* and *Compass*, as badges of your office, I entrust to your care, not doubting your vigilance and attention.

THE STEWARDS.

Brethren: You are elected Stewards of this Lodge. The duties of your office are to assist in the collection of dues and subscriptions, to keep an account of the Lodge expenses, and generally to assist the Deacons and other officers in performing their duties.

THE TYLER.

Brother: You are elected Tyler of this Lodge, and I invest you with the implement of your office. As the sword is placed in the hands of the Tyler to enable him effectually to guard against the approach of cowans and eavesdroppers, and suffer none to pass or repass but such as are duly qualified, so it should morally serve as a constant admonition to us to set a guard at the entrance of our thoughts, to place a watch at the door of our lips, and to post a sentinel over our actions, thereby excluding every unqualified and unworthy thought, word and deed, and preserving consciences void of offense toward God and toward man.

Your early and punctual attendance will afford the best proof of your zeal for the Institution.

The Grand Master will then call up the Lodge, and address the officers and members as follows:

CHARGE TO THE MASTER.

Worshipful Master: Being elected Master of this Lodge, you cannot be insensible of the obligations which devolve upon you as its head, nor of your responsibility for the faithful discharge of the important duties annexed to your station.

The honor, reputation and usefulness of your Lodge will materially depend on the skill and assiduity with which you manage its concerns, while the happiness of its members will be generally promoted in proportion to the zeal and ability with which you propagate the genuine principles of our Institution.

For a pattern of imitation, consider the great luminary of nature, which, rising in the *East*, regularly diffuses light and luster to all within its circle. In like manner it is your province to spread and communicate light and instruction to the brethren of your Lodge. Forcibly impress upon them the dignity and high importance of Masonry, and seriously admonish them never to disgrace it. Charge them to practice out of the Lodge those duties which are taught in it; and by amiable, discreet and virtuous conduct convince mankind of the goodness of the Institution; so that, when any one is said to be a member of it, the world may know he is one to whom the burthened heart may pour out its sorrows; to whom distress may prefer its suit; whose hand is guided by justice, and whose heart is expanded by benevolence. In short, by a diligent observation of the By-Laws of your Lodge, the Constitution of Masonry, and, above all, the Holy Scriptures, which are given as a rule and guide to your faith and

practice, you will be enabled to acquit yourself with honor and reputation, and lay up a crown of rejoicing which shall continue when time shall be no more.

CHARGE TO THE SENIOR AND JUNIOR WARDENS.

Brother Senior and Junior Wardens: You are too well acquainted with the principles of Masonry to warrant any distrust that you will be found wanting in the discharge of your respective duties—suffice it to mention that what you have seen praiseworthy in others you should carefully imitate; and what in them may have appeared defective, you should in yourselves amend. You should be examples of good order and regularity, for it is only by a due regard to the laws in your own conduct that you can expect obedience to them from others. You are assiduously to assist the Master in the discharge of his trust; diffusing light and imparting knowledge to all whom he shall place under your care. In the absence of the Master you will succeed to higher duties; your acquirements must, therefore, be such as that the Craft may never suffer for want of proper instruction. From the spirit which you have hitherto evinced, I entertain no doubt that your future conduct will be such as to merit the applause of your brethren, and the testimony of a good conscience.

CHARGE TO THE LODGE.

Brethren of Lodge No. . . : Such is the nature of our Constitution, that as some must of necessity rule and teach, so others must, of course, learn to submit and obey. Humility in both is an essential duty. The officers who are appointed to govern your Lodge are sufficiently conversant with the rules of propriety and the laws of the Institution, to avoid exceeding the

powers with which they are entrusted, and you are of too generous dispositions to envy their preferment. I therefore trust that you will have but one aim, to please each other, and unite in the grand design of being happy, and communicating happiness.

Finally, my brethren, as this association has been formed and perfected with so much unanimity and concord, in which we greatly rejoice, so may it long continue. May you long enjoy every satisfaction and delight which disinterested friendship can afford. May kindness and brotherly affection distinguish your conduct as men and as Masons. Within your peaceful walls, may your children's children celebrate, with joy and gratitude, the transactions of this auspicious solemnity. And may the tenets of our profession be transmitted through your Lodge, pure and unimpaired, from generation to generation.

The officers being installed, the Grand Marshal will make the following

PROCLAMATION.

In the name and by the authority of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of Indiana, I proclaim this new Lodge by the name of Lodge No. ..., duly constituted, and the officers thereof duly installed, this day of, 18..."

The Grand Lodge is now closed and the ceremonies thus ended.

RITUAL

FOR

CEREMONIES OF LAYING CORNER-STONES.

On arriving at the place of laying the corner-stone, while the band is playing, the stone will be raised some six feet above the place it is designed to occupy.

The Superintendent will say:

“Most Worshipful Grand Master of Masons of Indiana: On behalf of, I now request that you will proceed to lay the corner-stone of the, in accordance with the formalities of your Ancient and Honorable Institution.

The Grand Master will reply:

Sir, I accept your invitation to lay the corner-stone of this, to be erected in this beautiful city, and will proceed to do the work as requested.

The teachings of Freemasonry inculcate that in all laudable undertakings, be they great or small, begun, continued and finished, we should seek the aid and favor of Almighty God. It therefore becomes us, as Freemasons, before entering upon the duty assigned us, to most humbly and sincerely invoke the blessing of the Great Architect of the Universe upon the work in which we are about to engage. I therefore command the utmost silence, and call upon all to unite with our Grand Chaplain in the performance of his sacred duty.

Prayer by the Grand Chaplain, at the conclusion of which all will respond:

So mote it be.

(Music.)

Grand Master. Right Worshipful Grand Treasurer, it has ever been the custom on occasions like this to deposit within a cavity in the stone placed in the corner of an edifice, certain memorials of the period at which it was erected, so that in the lapse of ages, the fury of the elements or the slow but certain ravages of time, should its foundation be laid bare, an enduring record may be found by some succeeding generation to bear testimony to the energy, industry and culture of our own time. Has such a deposit been prepared?

Grand Treasurer. It has, Most Worshipful Grand Master, and the various articles of which it is composed are safely enclosed within this casket which I now place before you.

The casket is placed before the Grand Master, who will then address the Grand Secretary:

Grand Master. Right Worshipful Grand Secretary, has a list of the articles contained within this casket been prepared? If so, you will proceed to read the same for the information of the people here assembled.

The Grand Secretary reads the list as prepared. When done, the Grand Master will say:

Grand Master. Right Worshipful Grand Treasurer, you will now deposit this casket in the cavity prepared for its reception in this corner-stone, and may the Great Architect of the Universe in His wisdom grant that ages upon ages shall pass away ere the necessity shall arise to again bring it to be seen of men.

The Grand Treasurer makes the deposit.

(Music.)

The Grand Treasurer will then report:

Grand Treasurer. Most Worshipful Grand Master, your orders have been duly executed, and the casket carefully deposited in the cavity prepared for it.

The architect will now deliver the tools to the Grand Master, who will then present the square to the Deputy Grand Master, the level to the Senior Grand Warden, and the plumb to the Junior Grand Warden, saying:

Grand Master. Right Worshipful Brethren, receive from me these implements of your office. With your assistance, and that of the workmen, I will now proceed to lay the corner-stone of this edifice according to the custom of our Ancient Fraternity.

The Grand Master takes his place at the east of the stone, Deputy Grand Master on his right, the Senior Grand Warden at the west, and the Junior Grand Warden at the south. The Grand Master then says:

Grand Master. Brother Grand Marshal, you will cause the workmen to lower the stone in proper form.

The Marshal will superintend the lowering of the stone.

The ceremonies will then proceed as follows:

Grand Master. Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master, what is the proper implement of your office?

Deputy Grand Master. The Square, Most Worshipful Grand Master.

Grand Master. What are its moral and Masonic uses?

Deputy Grand Master. Morally it teaches us to harmonize our conduct by the principles of morality and virtue, and by it we prove our work.

Grand Master. Apply the implement of your office to the appropriate part of this corner-stone, and make report.

The square is applied to the four corners of the stone, and report is made:

Deputy Grand Master. Most Worshipful Grand Master, your order has been duly executed, and I am happy to report that the stone is square; the workmen have done their duty.

Grand Master. Right Worshipful Senior Grand Warden, what is the proper implement of your office?

Senior Grand Warden. The Level, Most Worshipful Grand Master.

Grand Master. What are its moral and Masonic uses?

Senior Grand Warden. Morally it teaches that we are all descended from the same common parent, partake of the same nature, and share the same hope, and by it we prove our work.

Grand Master. Apply the implement of your office to the proper portion of the stone, and make report.

The Senior Grand Warden applies the level to the top surface of the stone, and then reports:

Senior Grand Warden. Most Worshipful Grand Master, your order has been duly executed, and I am happy to report that the corner-stone is level; the workmen have performed their duty.

Grand Master. Right Worshipful Junior Grand Warden, what is the proper implement of your office?

Junior Grand Warden. The Plumb, Most Worshipful Grand Master.

Grand Master. What are its moral and Masonic uses?

Junior Grand Warden. Morally it teaches us to walk uprightly in our several stations, to hold the scale of justice in equal poise, and by it we prove our work.

Grand Master. Apply the implement of your office to the several sides of this corner-stone, and make report.

The plumb is applied to the several sides of the stone by the Junior Grand Warden, after which he reports:

Junior Grand Warden. Most Worshipful Grand Master, your order has been duly executed. I find the stone is plumb and in its true position, and I am happy to report that the workmen have completed their work well and faithfully.

Grand Master. This corner-stone having been tested by the proper implements of Masonry, and report made that the workmen have skillfully and faithfully performed their duty, I therefore declare the stone well formed, true and trusty, correctly proved and well laid according to the rules of our Ancient Craft.

The Grand Master now strikes the stone three times with the gavel, and says:

Grand Master. May the building to be erected upon this stone be conducted to its completion amid the blessings of Almighty God, in Plenty, Health and Peace.

The brethren respond:

So mote it be.

The Grand Master strikes the stone three times, and then directs:

Grand Master. Brother Grand Marshal, present the elements of consecration to the proper officers.

The Grand Marshal presents a vessel of Corn (wheat) to the Deputy Grand Master, vessel of Wine to the Senior Grand Warden, and vessel of Oil to the Junior Grand Warden. The Deputy Grand Master then steps forward, scatters the corn on the stone, and says:

Deputy Grand Master. As I scatter this corn, an emblem of plenty, upon this corner-stone, so may the blessings of bounteous heaven be showered upon us and upon all like important undertakings, and inspire the hearts of the people everywhere with Wisdom, Virtue and Gratitude.

Response. So mote it be.

The Senior Grand Warden, stepping forward with the vessel of wine, pouring it on the stone, will say:

Senior Grand Warden. As I pour this wine, an emblem of health, upon this corner-stone, so may the Great Ruler of the Universe bless with health and prosperity our Nation, State and City Governments; preserve the Union of these States in that harmony and concord which shall endure through all time.

Response. So mote it be.

The Junior Grand Warden then stepping forward with vessel of oil, pouring it on the stone, will say:

Junior Grand Warden. As I pour this oil, an emblem of peace, upon this corner-stone, so may the blessings of peace abide with us continually, and may the Grand Master of heaven and earth shelter and protect the widow and orphan, and vouchsafe to them and to the bereaved, and afflicted and sorrowing everywhere, the enjoyment of every good and perfect gift, with Plenty, Health and Peace.

Response. So mote it be.

(Music.)

Grand Master. May corn, wine and oil and all the necessities of life abound among men throughout the world; may the blessings of Almighty God be upon this undertaking; may the structure here to be erected be planned with wisdom, supported by strength, and adorned in beauty; and may it be preserved to the latest ages a monument of the liberality of its founders, and of the free and enlightened government in which it is our privilege to partake.

Response. So mote it be.

The Grand Master, addressing the architect, will say:

Grand Master. Worthy sir, having thus, as Grand Master of Masons, laid this corner-stone, I now deliver these implements of operative Masonry into your hands, with the fullest confidence that by your skill and taste, aided by faithful craftsmen, a building will here arise which will add new luster to your fame as a wise and accomplished master builder, as well as an ornament to the city in which it is located. May there be no envy, discord or confusion among the workmen; may the important duties confided to you in this undertaking, be performed to the entire satisfaction of those who have entrusted you with their fulfillment, as well as to the approbation of your own conscience, and to the honor of our whole country.

The Grand Master, addressing the Grand Marshal, will say:

Grand Master. Brother Grand Marshal, you will cause proclamation to be made that the corner-stone of this building to be here erected, has this day been found Square, Level and Plumb, true and trusty, and laid according to the ancient custom of the Fraternity, by the Grand Master of Masons of Indiana.

Grand Marshal. In the name of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Indiana, I now proclaim that the corner-stone of the new, to be here erected, has this day been found Square, Level and Plumb, true and trusty, and laid according to ancient custom, by the Most Worshipful Grand Master of Masons of Indiana.

Deputy Grand Master. This is proclaimed from the east to the west.

Senior Grand Warden. From the west to the south.

Junior Grand Warden. From the south to the north.

Grand Master. And throughout the land.

The entire audience will join the choir in singing the closing ode.

Oration.

Benediction."

DEDICATION OF MASONIC HALLS.

“At the time appointed for the dedication, the Lodge assembles in the Lodge room, the officers in their respective stations; the Grand Master and his officers, accompanied by the members of the Grand Lodge, meet in a convenient room, near the place where the ceremony is to be performed, and the Grand Lodge is opened in ample form.

The procession will then form under the direction of the Grand Marshal, when the Grand Lodge moves to the hall to be dedicated, in the following order:

ORDER OF PROCESSION.

The Grand Lodge.

Grand Tyler, with a drawn sword.

Senior and Junior Grand Deacons.

Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary.

Junior Grand Warden, with vessel of corn.

Senior Grand Warden, with vessel of wine.

Deputy Grand Master, with vessel of oil.

Master of oldest Lodge, carrying the three great lights.

Grand Chaplain and Orator.

Grand Master.

When the Grand Officers arrive at the center of the Lodge room, the Grand Honors are given by the Lodge. The Grand Officers then repair to their stations respectively. The Lodge officers will vacate the stations. The arrangements being completed, the following, or some other appropriate ode, may be sung:

“Master Supreme! accept our praise,

Still bless this consecrated band;

Parent of Light! illumine our ways,

And guide us by Thy sovereign hand.

May Faith, Hope, Charity, divine,
 Here hold their undivided reign;
 Friendship and Harmony combine
 To soothe our cares, to banish pain.

May pity dwell within each breast,
 Relief attend the suffering poor;
 Thousands by this, our Lodge, be blest,
 Till worth, distress'd, shall want no more."

The Master of the Lodge to which the hall to be dedicated belongs, then rises and addresses the Grand Master as follows:

"Most Worshipful: The brethren of Lodge, being animated with a desire to promote the honor and interest of the Craft, have erected a Masonic Hall for their convenience and accommodation. They are desirous that the same should be examined by the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge; and if it should meet its approbation, that it be solemnly dedicated to Masonic purposes, agreeable to ancient form and usage.

The Grand Architect then addresses the Grand Master as follows:

"Most Worshipful: Having been entrusted with the superintendence and management of the workmen employed in the construction of **this** edifice, and having accomplished the task assigned to me, I now return my thanks for the honor of this appointment, and beg leave to surrender the implements which were committed to my care when the foundation of this building was laid, humbly hoping that the exertions which have been made on this occasion may be crowned with your approbation, and that of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge.

The Grand Architect now delivers the square, level and plumb to the Grand Master.

Grand Master. Brother Grand Marshal, you will distribute the working tools to the proper Grand Officers.

Grand Master. Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master, what is the jewel of your office?

Deputy Grand Master. The Square, Most Worshipful.

Grand Master. What are its moral and Masonic uses?

Deputy Grand Master. To square our actions by the square of virtue, and prove our work.

Grand Master. Apply the implement of your office to that portion of the building to be proved, and make report.

The Deputy Grand Master applies the square to the several corners of the building, and says:

Deputy Grand Master. Most Worshipful, I find the building square. The craftsmen have performed their duty.

Grand Master. Right Worshipful Senior Grand Warden, what is the jewel of your office?

Senior Grand Warden. The Level, Most Worshipful.

Grand Master. What is its Masonic use?

Senior Grand Warden. Morally it reminds us of equality, and its use is to lay horizontals.

Grand Master. Apply the implement of your office to the building, and make report.

The Senior Grand Warden applies the level to the floor of the building, and says:

Senior Grand Warden. Most Worshipful, I find the building level. The craftsmen have performed their duty.

Grand Master. Right Worshipful Junior Grand Warden, what is the jewel of your office?

Junior Grand Warden. The Plumb, Most Worshipful.

Grand Master. What is its Masonic use?

Junior Grand Warden. Morally it teaches rectitude of conduct, and builders use it to prove perpendiculars.

Grand Master. Apply the implement of your office to the building, and make report.

The Junior Grand Warden applies the plumb to the walls of the building, and says:

Junior Grand Warden. Most Worshipful, I find the building plumb. The craftsmen have discharged their duty.

To which the Grand Master replies:

Brother Grand Architect: The skill and fidelity displayed in the execution of the trust reposed in you, at the commencement of this undertaking, have secured the approbation of the Grand Lodge; and we pronounce this edifice a monument to the liberality of its founders.

The Deputy Grand Master then rises and says:

Most Worshipful: The hall in which we are now assembled, having met with your approbation, it is the desire of the Fraternity that it should be dedicated, according to ancient form and usage.

The Grand Lodge then marches around the hall, during which solemn music may be played. (Same order of procession as before.)

When the procession arrives at the East, it halts, music ceases, and the Grand Chaplain makes the following

CONSECRATION PRAYER.

Almighty and ever glorious and gracious Lord God, Creator of all things, and Governor of everything that Thou hast made, mercifully look upon Thy servants now assembled in Thy presence, and bless and prosper all our works. Graciously bestow upon us *Wisdom* in all things, *Strength* of mind in all our difficulties, and the *Beauty* of harmony in all our communications. Let *Faith* be the foundation of our *Hope*, and *Charity* the fruit of our obedience to Thy will.

May all the work of our Institution that may be done in this house be such as Thy wisdom may approve and Thy goodness prosper. And finally, be pleased, O, Thou Sovereign Architect of the Universe, to bless the Craft wheresoever dispersed, and make them true and faithful to Thee, to their neighbor, and to themselves. And when the time of our labor is drawing to an end, and the pillar of our strength is declining, graciously enable us to pass through the valley of the shadow of death, supported by Thy rod and Thy staff, to those mansions beyond the skies, where love, and peace, and joy forever reign before Thy throne. Amen.

Response: So mote it be.

Second procession around the hall.

(Music.)

Genius of Masonry descend,
And with thee bring thy spotless train;
Constant our sacred rites attend,
While we adore thy peaceful reign.

The second procession being made around the Lodge, the Grand Master having reached the East, the Grand Junior Warden presents the vessel of corn to the Grand Master, saying:

Most Worshipful: In the dedication of Masonic halls it has been of immemorial custom to pour corn upon the Lodge as an emblem of nourishment. I therefore present you with this vessel of corn, to be employed by you according to ancient usage.

The Grand Master then pours the corn upon the Lodge, saying:

In the name of the great Jehovah, to whom be all honor and glory, I solemnly dedicate this hall to Freemasonry.

The Grand Honors are given.

(Music.)

Bring with thee Virtue! brightest maid;
Bring Love and Truth and Friendship here;
While social mirth shall lend her aid,
To soothe the wrinkled brow of care.

The third procession is then made around the Lodge, and the Grand Senior Warden presents the vessel of wine to the Grand Master, saying:

Most Worshipful: Wine, the emblem of refreshment, having been used by our ancient brethren in the dedication and consecration of their Lodge, I present you this vessel of wine, to be used on the present occasion according to ancient Masonic form.

The Grand Master then sprinkles the wine upon the Lodge, saying:

In the name of the holy *Saints' John* I solemnly dedicate this hall to *Virtue*.

The Grand Honors are twice repeated.

(Music.)

Bring Charity! with goodness crowned,
 Encircled in the heavenly robe;
 Diffuse thy blessings all around,
 To every corner of the Globe!

The fourth procession is then made around the Lodge, and the Deputy Grand Master presents the vessel of oil to the Grand Master, saying:

Most Worshipful: I present you this vessel of oil, an emblem of that joy which should animate every bosom on the completion of any important taking.

The Grand Master then sprinkles the oil upon the Lodge, saying:

In the name of the whole *Fraternity* I solemnly dedicate this hall to *Universal Benevolence*.

The Grand Honors are thrice repeated.

(Music.)

To heaven's high Architect all praise,
 All praise, all gratitude be given,
 Who deigned the human soul to raise,
 By mystic secrets sprung from heaven.

The Grand Chaplain then makes the following

INVOCATION:

And may the Lord, the giver of every good and perfect gift, bless the brethren here assembled in all their lawful undertakings, and grant to each one of them the corn of nourishment, the wine of refreshment, and the oil of joy. Amen.

Response by the Brethren: So mote it be."

The Grand Master then returns to his chair.

An oration may then be delivered, and the ceremonies concluded with music.

The Grand Lodge is again formed in procession, as at first, and returns to the room where it was opened, and is closed in ample form.

FUNERAL CEREMONIES

FOR MASTER MASONS.

ORDER OF PROCESSION.

Tyler, with drawn sword.

Stewards, with white rods.

Master Masons.

Senior and Junior Deacons, with rods.

Secretary and Treasurer.

Senior and Junior Wardens, with their columns.

Past Masters.

The Three Great Lights.

The Worshipful Master.

Pall Bearers.

HEARSE.

Pall Bearers.

FUNERAL SERVICE.

The brethren being assembled at the Lodge room, the Worshipful Master will open the Lodge on the third degree. After stating the object of the meeting, the services will commence, the brethren all standing. (These services may be had at the Lodge room, at house of the deceased, at the church, or at the grave.) Members of the Lodge should be clothed in black. The brethren when in procession must march elbow to elbow. Open order marching is not permissible in a Masonic procession.

“*Master.* Man that is born of woman hath but a short time to live, and is full of misery. He cometh

up, and is cut down like a flower ; he fleeth as it were a shadow, and never continueth in one stay. In the midst of life we are in death. Of whom, then may we seek for succor, but of Thee, O Lord, who for our sins art justly displeased? My brethren, where is the man that liveth that shall not see death?

Response by the Brethren. Man walketh in a vain shadow ; he heapeth up riches and cannot tell who shall gather them.

Master. Where is now our departed brother?

Response. He dwelleth in night ; he sojourneth in darkness.

Master. Can we offer any precious thing to redeem our brother?

Response. We have not the ransom. The place that once knew him shall know him no more forever.

Master. Shall his name be lost upon the earth?

Response. We will treasure it in our memories, we will record it in our hearts.

Master. How then, will it be known?

Response. It shall live in the exercise of his virtues.

Master. When our brother died, did he carry nothing away with him?

Response. He fulfilled his destiny ; naked came he into the world, and naked he has departed out of it.

Master. Hear, then, the conclusion of the whole matter : It is the Lord only that can give, and it is the Lord that hath taken away.

Response. Blessed forever be the name of the Lord.

Master. Let us endeavor to live the life of the righteous, that our last end may be like his.

Response. God is our God for ever and ever. He will be our guide and our support, even through the dark valley of the shadow of death.

Master. I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me: "Write, from henceforth blessed are the dead who die in the Lord; even so, saith the spirit, for they rest from their labors."

The Worshipful Master will here take the roll on which is inscribed the name, age and Masonic record of the deceased, and say:

Almighty Father! In Thy hands we leave, with humble submission, the soul of our departed brother.

The brethren will all respond:

The will of God is accomplished. Amen. So mote it be.

The Worshipful Master now hands the roll to the Secretary to be preserved in the archives; after which the following, or some other suitable form of prayer, is used:

PRAYER.

Most glorious God! author of all good and giver of all mercy! pour down Thy blessings upon us, and strengthen our solemn engagements with the ties of sincere affection! May the present instance of mortality remind us of our approaching fate, and draw our attention toward Thee, the only refuge in time of need! that when the awful moment shall arrive, that we are about to quit this transitory scene, the enlivening prospect of Thy mercy may dispel the gloom of death; and, after our departure hence in peace and in Thy favor, may we

be received into Thine everlasting Kingdom, to enjoy in union with the souls of our departed friends, the just reward of a pious and virtuous life. Amen.

Response. So mote it be.

The procession will now form in the order prescribed, and will march to the residence of the deceased. The Worshipful Master and pall bearers will enter and take formal possession of the remains. The Worshipful Master will tie a white apron on the casket. Pall bearers will then carry the remains to the hearse and then take their places at either side of the same. The Worshipful Master resumes his place, and the procession moves, and when it has arrived at the place of interment, the officers will take their respective stations, while the brethren form a square about the grave, inclosing within the square the immediate relatives of the deceased. When all are in order, the services will be resumed by the Worshipful Master, as follows:

Here we view a striking instance of the uncertainty of life, and the vanity of all human pursuits. The last offices paid to the dead are only useful as lectures to the living. From them we are to derive instruction, and to consider every solemnity of this kind as a warning to prepare for our approaching dissolution.

Notwithstanding the various mementoes of mortality with which we daily meet; notwithstanding Death, has established his empire over all the works of nature, yet, through some unaccountable infatuation, we forget that we are born to die. We go on, from one design to another, add hope to hope, and lay out plans for the enjoyment of many years, till we are suddenly alarmed by the approach of Death, when we least expect him, and, at an hour which we probably conclude to be the meridian of our existence.

What are all the externals of majesty, the pride of

wealth, or the charms of beauty, when nature has paid her just debt? Fix your eyes on the last scene, and view life stripped of her ornaments, and exposed in her natural meanness; you will then be convinced of the futility of those empty delusions. In the grave, all fallacies are detected, all ranks leveled, and all distinctions are done away.

While we drop the sympathetic tear over the grave of our deceased friend, let charity incline us to throw a veil over his foibles, whatever they may have been, and not withhold from his memory the praise that his virtues may have claimed. Suffer the apologies of human nature to plead in his behalf. Perfection on earth has never been attained. The wisest, as well as the best, of men have erred.

Let the present example excite our most serious thoughts, and strengthen our resolutions of amendment. As life is uncertain, and all earthly pursuits vain, let us no longer postpone the important concern of preparing for eternity, but embrace the happy moment, while time and opportunity offer, to provide against that great change when all the pleasures of this world shall cease to delight, and the reflections of a virtuous life yield the only comfort and consolation. Thus our expectations will not be frustrated, nor we hurried, unprepared, into the presence of an all-wise and powerful Judge, to whom the secrets of all hearts are known.

Let us, while in this stage of existence, support with propriety the character of our profession, advert to the nature of our solemn ties and pursue with assiduity the sacred tenets of our Order. Then, with becoming reverence, let us supplicate the Divine grace, to insure the

favor of that Eternal Being, whose goodness and power know no bound; that when the awful moment arrives, be it soon or late, we may be enabled to prosecute our journey without dread or apprehension, to that far-distant country whence no traveler returns.

The following invocations are then made by the Worshipful Master:

Master. May we be true and faithful, and may we live and die in love!

Response. So mote it be.

Master. May we profess what is good, and always act agreeably to our profession!

Response. So mote it be.

Master. May the Lord bless us and prosper us; and may all our good intentions be crowned with success.

Response. So mote it be.

Master. Glory be to God on high; on earth peace, good will toward men!

Response. So mote it be, now, from henceforth, and forevermore.

The Worshipful Master will then say:

I am the resurrection and the life, saith the Lord; he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live, and whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die.

Here the apron is taken from the coffin and handed to the Master, and the body will be lowered into the grave.

The Master will then say:

Forasmuch as it hath pleased Almighty God in His

wise Providence to take out of the world the soul of our deceased brother, we therefore commit his body to the ground.

Earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust; looking for the general resurrection in the last day, when the earth and the sea shall give up their dead.

One of the following Odes will now be sung, the brethren standing:

HYMN.

I.

“Thou art gone to the grave, but we will not deplore thee,
Though sorrow and darkness encompass the tomb;
The Saviour has passed through its portals before thee,
And the lamp of His love is thy guide through the gloom.

II.

Thou art gone to the grave, we no longer behold thee,
Nor tread the rough path of the world by thy side;
But the wide arms of mercy were spread to enfold thee,
For all men may hope since the Sinless has died.

III.

Thou art gone to the grave, but 'twere wrong to deplore thee,
When God was thy ransom, thy guardian and guide;
He gave thee, and took thee, and soon will restore thee,
Where death has no sting since the Saviour has died.”

DIRGE.

“Solemn strikes the funeral chime,
Notes of our departing time,
As we journey here below,
Through the pilgrimage of woe.

“Mortals, now indulge a tear,
For mortality is here;
See how wide its trophies wave,
O'er the victims of the grave.

"Lo! another guest we bring,
 Seraph of celestial wing,
 To our funeral altar come,
 Waft a friend, a brother home.

"Lord of all, below, above,
 Fill our hearts with truth and love,
 As dissolves our earthly tie,
 Take us to thy Lodge on high!"

The services will be resumed by the Worshipful Master saying:

Master. Friend and brother we bid thee a last, a long farewell! Thou art at rest from thy labors; may it be in peace!

Response. So mote it be. Amen.

Presenting the apron, he will say:

The Lamb-skin, or White Apron, is an emblem of Innocence, and the badge of a Mason. It is more ancient than the Golden Fleece or Roman Eagle; more honorable than the Star and Garter.

The Master now deposits the apron in the grave.

This emblem I now deposit in the grave of our deceased brother. By this we are reminded of the universal dominion of Death. The arm of friendship cannot interpose to prevent his coming; the wealth of the world cannot purchase our release; nor will the innocence of youth, or the charms of beauty, propitiate his purpose. The mattock, the coffin and the melancholy grave, admonish us of our mortality, and that, sooner or later, these frail, weak bodies must moulder in their parent dust.

Presenting the evergreen, he will say:

This Evergreen is an emblem of our faith in the mortality of the soul. By this we are reminded of our

high and glorious destiny beyond the world of shadows, and that there dwells within the tabernacle of clay, an imperishable, immortal spirit, over which the grave has no dominion, and death no power.

The brethren then move in solemn procession around the grave and severally drop the sprig of evergreen into the grave; after which the public Grand Honors are given.

The Master then continues the ceremony at the grave in the following words:

From time immemorial it has been a custom among the fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons, at the request of a brother, to accompany his corpse to the place of interment, and there to deposit his remains with the usual formalities.

In conformity to this usage, and at the special request of our deceased brother, whose memory we revere and whose loss we now deplore, we have assembled in the character of Masons to resign his body to the earth whence it came, and to offer up to his memory, before the world, the last tribute of our affection; thereby demonstrating the sincerity of our past esteem, and our steady attachment to the principles of the Order.

With all proper respect to the established customs of the country in which we live, with due deference to our superiors in church and state, and with unlimited good-will to all mankind, we here appear clothed as Masons, and publicly express our submission to order and good government, and our wish to promote the general interests of mankind. Invested with the badge of innocence, we humbly bow to the Universal Parent, implore His blessing on all our zealous endeavors to extend peace and good-will, and earnestly pray for His

grace to enable us to persevere in the principles of piety and virtue. The Great Creator having been pleased, out of His mercy, to remove our brother from the cares and troubles of a transitory life, to a state of eternal duration, and thereby to weaken the chain by which we are united, man to man, may we, who survive him, anticipate our approaching fate and be more strongly cemented in the ties of union and friendship; that during the short space allotted to our present existence we may wisely and usefully employ our time; and in the reciprocal intercourse of kind and friendly acts, mutually promote the welfare and happiness of each other.

Unto the grave we resign the body of our deceased friend, there to remain until the general resurrection, in favorable expectation that his immortal soul may then partake of joys which have been prepared for the righteous from the beginning of the world; and may Almighty God, of His infinite goodness, at the grand tribunal of unbiassed justice, extend His mercy toward him and all of us, and crown our hope with everlasting bliss in the expanded realms of a boundless eternity. This we beg, for the honor of His name, to whom be glory, now and forever. Amen.

CONCLUDING PRAYER.

Great Architect of the Universe! may this occasion remind us that we are traveling to that undiscovered country, and that soon, like our departed brother, we shall be consigned to the silent abode of the dead. May these separations remind us, so to live, that when we shall be called to quit these earthly scenes, that we shall once more be united with our departed brother, and that an approving consciousness of this fact shall

cast a halo of glory around our departing hours, and cause us to look forward to a glorious immortality. Bind us, Oh, Lord! still stronger together in the bonds of brotherly love and affection; and as Thou hast seen fit to remove our brother from us, may the same tie which united us continue to bind us to his afflicted and bereaved family. Help us to sympathize with them and to tender them all the consolation and relief which earthly friends can bestow. And may He who in His wisdom has seen fit to send this affliction, watch over them with a fatherly care—guide and protect them, and finally unite them in that heavenly home, no more to be separated. Amen.

Response. So mote it be."

The benediction will now be pronounced, and the Lodge will return to its hall.

FORMS.

PETITION TO BE MADE A MASON.

*To the Worshipful Master, Wardens and Brethren of.....
Lodge No..., F. & A. Masons:*

The petition of the subscriber respectfully represents that he was born on the.....day of....., A. D. 18.., at....., State of; and that he resides at....., State of.....; and that he has been a resident of the jurisdiction of your said Lodge for the period of.....years and.....months; and that he has ...been rejected by any other Masonic Lodge; and that, having long entertained a favorable opinion of your ancient Institution, he is desirous of being admitted a member thereof, if found worthy. His occupation is that of.....

Dated at....., this.....day of....., 18...

(Signed).....

Recommended by Master Masons

.....
.....

Note.—The full name of the petitioner should be signed.

PETITION FOR MEMBERSHIP.

*To the Worshipful Master, Wardens and Brethren of.....
Lodge No..., F. & A. Masons:*

The subscriber respectfully represents, that he is a Master Mason in good standing, and that he was formerly a member of.....Lodge No., located at....., State of....., from which he has dimitted, which fact is evidenced by a certificate of dimit from said Lodge at-

tached hereto. He now petitions to become a member of
your Lodge, if found worthy. His residence is at.....
Occupation..... Born....., 18...

Dated at..... this.....day of....., 18...

(Signed).....

Recommended by Master Masons

.....
.....

CERTIFICATE OF DIMIT.

I,....., Secretary of.....Lodge No., work-
ing under a charter regularly issued by the Most Worshipful
Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of
Indiana, do hereby certify:

That Brother.....is a Master Mason in good
standing, that he has paid all dues owing by him to said
Lodge, and that no charges are pending against him at this
date, and having made application in writing for a dimit
from the Lodge aforesaid, the dimit prayed for was granted
to him by a vote of said Lodge at a stated meeting thereof
held on the.....day of....., 18..

[Seal.] Witness, my signature and the seal
of.....Lodge No.. aforesaid, at
..... Indiana, this.....day
of....., 18..

.....

Secretary.

PAY YOUR DUES.

Hall of.....Lodge No., F. & A. Masons.
Brother.....

To.....Lodge No., F. & A. Masons, Dr.
For Lodge dues to....., 18., \$.

The By-Laws require dues to be paid on or before the
.....of each year.

Fraternally yours,

.....

Secretary.

....., 18..

NOTICE TO DELINQUENTS.

Hall of.....Lodge No., F. & A. Masons.
 Brother.....

To.....Lodge No., F. & A. Masons, Dr.
 For Lodge dues to....., 18., \$.....

You are hereby notified that the dues charged against you
 must be paid on or before the stated meeting of the Lodge,
 to be held....., 18..

By order of the Lodge.

.....
, 18.. Secretary.

CHARGES FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES—ACCOUNT CURRENT.

Hall of.....Lodge No., F. & A. Masons.
, Ind., ... 18..

Brother....., a Master Mason and a member of
Lodge No., F. & A. Masons, is hereby charged
 with unmasonic conduct, in this, to-wit:

Specification 1. That the said brother is indebted to the
 Lodge aforesaid for dues from.....18.. to
 18., in the sum of \$....., which he has failed and neg-
 lected to pay, in violation of Section.....of the By-
 Laws of said Lodge.

Witnesses: Secretary.
 John Doe, Secretary, also Ledger of said Lodge.

NOTIFICATION.

Hall of.....Lodge No., F. & A. Masons.
, 18..
 Brother.....

You are hereby notified to attend a meeting of this Lodge
 at the hall thereof, on the.....day of.....18..
 at.....o'clock p. m., to answer to a charge of unma-
 sonic conduct, in the non-payment of dues, as shown by the
 above account.

By order of the Lodge.

[Seal.] Witness, my signature and the seal
 of said Lodge at.....Indiana,
 this.....day of.....18..

 Secretary.

SECRETARY'S RECEIPT.

No.... \$.....
 Received of

 For dues:
 From 18..
 To 18..

 Secretary.
Lodge No..

LODGE ORDER.

No.... \$.....
 To
 Ordered 18..

 Secretary.
 Lodge No....

TREASURER'S RECEIPT.

No.... \$.....
 Received 18..
 From
 Secretary.

 Treasurer.
 Lodge No....

SECRETARY'S RECEIPT.

No.... 18..
 Brother.....
 To.....Lodge No.,
 F. & A. Masons, Dr.
 To dues from.....18..
 To.....18.. \$.....
 Received payment.

 Secretary.

LODGE ORDER.

No.... \$.....
18..
 Treasurer of.....Lodge No..
 F. & A. Masons:
 Pay to.....the sum
 of Dollars
 100
 as per order of said Lodge,
W. M.
 Attest:
Secretary.

TREASURER'S RECEIPT.

No.... 18..
 Received of Brother.....
 Secretary of.....Lodge No., F. &
 A. Masons.....Dollars
 and.....Cents.

 Treasurer.
 \$.....

SUMMONS.

Brother.....

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of.....
 Lodge No., F. & A. Masons, to be held at the hall of said
 Lodge at.....county of.....and State of Indi-
 ana, on the.....day of....., 18.., at.....o'clock...,
 for the purpose of.....

.....

By order of.....Lodge No.. aforesaid.

[Seal.] Witness, my signature and the seal
 of said Lodge at....., State of
this.....day of....., 18..

.....
 Secretary.

APPOINTMENT OF SPECIAL DEPUTY.

The Grand Lodge F. & A. Masons, Indiana—Office of M. W.
 Grand Master.
189..

.....

You are hereby appointed my Special Deputy to.....

.....

When the duty herein assigned to you is performed, you will
 return this Commission, with your doings thereunder, to me.

[Seal.] Witness, my signature and the seal of the
 Grand Lodge, the date first above written.

.....
 Grand Master.

Attest:

.....
 Grand Secretary.

SPECIAL DISPENSATION TO ELECT OFFICERS.

The Grand Lodge F. & A. Masons, Indiana—Office of M. W.
 Grand Master.
189..

To.....W. M.
Lodge No....., F. & A. M.

Dear Brother—Permission is hereby granted your Lodge
 to elect the following officers, viz.:.....

.....

The election to take place at the first stated meeting of said Lodge after the receipt of this order, and the officers elected thereunder to be installed at the same meeting, or as soon thereafter as practicable.

You will cause the Secretary to record this order in the record of the Lodge, and return the same to me with report of your doings.

Fraternally yours,

.....

Grand Master.

COMMISSION TO CONSTITUTE LODGE.

I, ..., M. W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Indiana, by virtue of the power in me vested, do hereby appoint.....my Special Deputy to constitute.....Lodge No...., and install the officers thereof, requiring that every brother who was a signer of the petition for dispensation to organize the said Lodge, submit for approval a proper dimit from the Lodge of which he was last a member, or a member at the date of the organization under the dispensation, and that previous to constituting the said.....Lodge No.... you satisfy yourself that at least seven of the members thereof, including those appointed Worshipful Master and Wardens in the charter, have submitted dimits as above required.

In the absence of such dimits at the organization under charter, all others subsequently desiring membership in the new Lodge must apply and obtain it by petition in the usual way, as prescribed in the Rules of the Grand Lodge.

And also that you make return to me of this appointment, with the blanks hereunto appended properly filled, at as early a day as practicable.

.....

Grand Master.

.....189..

REPORT OF SPECIAL DEPUTY.

To.....

M. W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge,
F. & A. Masons of Indiana.

I, ..., Special Deputy, do hereby report that on the day of, 18.., I constituted

in due form.....Lodge No., and installed
the officers thereof, of which the following in a correct list:

.....W. M.
.....S. W.
.....J. W.
.....Treasurer.
.....Secretary.
.....S. D.
.....J. D.
.....
.....Stewards.
.....Tyler.

MEMBERS (INCLUDING OFFICERS.)

1..... 3.....
2..... 4.....

ORDER OF SUSPENSION BY THE GRAND MASTER.

The Grand Lodge F. & A. Masons, Indiana—Office of M. W.
Grand Master.

.....189..

To the Worshipful Master, Wardens and Members of

.....Lodge No., F. & A. Masons:

Brethren—Your Lodge having failed to pay Grand Lodge
dues on or before April 1, 18.., as required by the provisions
of Section 13 of the By-laws of the Grand Lodge, it is or-
dered that your charter be suspended and that your Lodge
cease to work or meet as such until the full and complete
payment of said dues, and if you shall fail and neglect to
pay the same, you are hereby cited to be and appear before
the Grand Lodge at ten o'clock a. m., on the day of
May, 18.., and then and there show cause, if any, why your
Lodge should not be struck from the roll of Lodges of this
State.

The receipt of the Grand Secretary for dues of 18.. will
authorize your Lodge to resume labor.

By order of

[Seal.]

Attest:

Grand Master.

Grand Secretary.

PART SECOND.

DIGEST OF DECISIONS

Grand Lodge F. & A. Masons

STATE OF INDIANA.

ABANDONMENT OF FAMILY—DECEPTION OF A MASON'S SISTER.

It is a Masonic offense—worthy of expulsion—for a Mason to abandon for a long time his wife and children, and not provide for their support; and, while under marriage vows to his wife, to court the sister of a Master Mason and become engaged to marry her.—Proc. 1856, p. 52; Proc. 1858, p. 44. As to abandonment, see also Proc. 1879, p. 51.

ADVANCEMENT—OBJECTION.

Under the law requiring a ballot for each degree, a candidate for advancement against whom an objection has been made after a clear ballot, may renew his application at the next stated meeting, and if the ballot is clear he may be advanced, unless objection is again made.—Proc. 1876, pp. 33, 127.

ADVANCEMENT, OBJECTION TO—CHARGES AND TRIAL—CONSTRUCTION.

An existing regulation provides that: "Objection to the advancement of a candidate, after initiation,
(123)

will operate to suspend the conferring of the degree until the next stated meeting of the Lodge, when, should he have made suitable proficiency, and no further objection be interposed, the degree may be conferred. But to permanently stop a candidate from further advancement at any time after his initiation, charges must be regularly preferred, a trial had, and judgment of the Lodge pronounced against him.”—Sec. 62. Of this law, Grand Master Bruce Carr said:

“I can see but one construction that can be placed upon the language used in the section. I construe it to mean that if a member is always ready at stated meetings with his objections, he can prevent the advancement from one meeting to another indefinitely. But if he wishes to place the candidate in a situation that will make these stated objections unnecessary, he must prefer charges. I can’t read the section any other way.”—Proc. 1884, p. 17.

The Lodges throughout this Grand Jurisdiction acted under this construction, and regarded it as the law for eight years following, when Grand Master Nicholas R. Ruckle, quoting the section in question, said:

“In explanation of the above [section] I have ruled: That an objection made to the Worshipful Master privately is a valid objection under the law; that a second objection may be received at the next stated meeting at the discretion of the Master; but a further objection should not be entertained unless for the purpose of giving necessary time to the objecting

brother or brothers to prepare charges. The Worshipful Master has a two-fold duty: to protect an initiate from an unfounded objection, and to guard the Lodge against the advancement of an unworthy member. The objector to the advancement of an initiate should be warned that an objection, to be permanent, must be sustained by the judgment of the Lodge."—Proc. 1892, pp. 13, 59. See also Proc. 1897, pp. 20, 80; Proc. 1898, pp. 116, 117, 118.

AFFILIATION—DIMIT, NOT SUFFICIENT—PROOF OF STANDING—IDENTITY—VOUCHER.

The fact that one holds a dimit purporting to be issued by a Masonic Lodge is not sufficient evidence that the holder thereof is a Mason, nor is it sufficient proof of identity. One holding such a dimit must make proof of his character and standing as a Mason, or be vouched by a brother in good standing, before a Masonic Lodge can admit him to membership.—Proc. 1896, pp. 27, 92.

AFFILIATION—REJECTION—JURISDICTION.

A Master Mason is not placed under any additional disability by having been rejected on application for membership in a Lodge, nor is his right to apply for membership in another Lodge, at any time, restricted in the least.—Proc. 1875, pp. 34, 91.

AFFILIATION—REJECTION—REASONS.

A non-affiliated Mason applying for membership is not entitled to an investigation if rejected, nor can he demand reasons therefor.—Proc. 1882, pp. 34, 81.

AFFILIATION—UNANIMOUS BALLOT.

No non-affiliated brother can be admitted a member of any Lodge without the unanimous consent of all the members then present.—Proc. 1855, p. 48; citing Sec. VI of the General Regulations in the Constitutions of 1723.

AFFILIATION—UNANIMOUS BALLOT—REASON.

A Lodge enacted a by-law providing that on a petition for affiliation "two-thirds of the votes of the members shall be necessary to elect." Two considerations are here to be taken into account. In the first place, it is of the utmost importance that the portals of our Institution should be safely guarded; and, if it is right to scrutinize closely when the candidate first applies for admission to our sacred mysteries, lest some who are unworthy of this distinguished honor should gain this favor, even so is it necessary to protect ourselves from contact with those who have gained this high privilege unworthily, or have failed to comply with the requirements of the Order. In the second place, the right of a brother to determine who shall be entitled to the benefits of his Lodge, and who shall be associated with him in membership, is sacred, and cannot be inquired into or questioned. A single black ball determines the fate of the candidate for initiation, and no man has a right to inquire by whom it has been cast, or the reasons for such action. Do not the same rights continue to be vested in the brother, whenever an applicant for membership appears at the door demanding admission? If, to preserve harmony in the one instance, the ballot must be unanimous,

why should it not be equally requisite in the other? A unanimous ballot in his favor is necessary to entitle any brother to admission to membership to any Lodge.—Proc. 1859, pp. 43, 44.

APPEAL—ABATEMENT—DEATH.

Notice of death of the appellant (the accused) during the pendency of an appeal to the Grand Lodge must operate as a dismissal of said appeal. The rights possessed by the appellant under and by virtue of the appeal were purely personal, and do not revert to any of his representatives.—Proc. 1872, p. 86. But see Proc. 1874, pp. 83, 84; Proc. 1875, p. 94; Proc. 1878, pp. 18, 88.

APPEAL—ABATEMENT—DEATH.

The Committee on Grievances and Appeals find the appellant to have died, but, on appearance of his legal representative, they consider and affirm the case in which the said appellant had been found guilty and expelled by his Lodge upon evidence consisting alone of the transcript of the judgment of a civil court convicting him of a criminal offense.—Proc. 1874, p. 83. An appeal was at once taken by the counsel (so called) for the deceased from the action of the committee to the Grand Lodge, which was ordered to lie on the table until the next annual meeting.—Id., pp. 83, 84. At such next annual meeting, said so-called counsel, suggesting the death of the appellant, claimed a further investigation “in justice due to his memory,” and asked a reference of the matter back to the committee, or to a select committee. Thereupon a motion was made to refer the matter back to the Lodge, which was

not agreed to; and no further action was had.—Proc. 1875, p. 94. See also, on the subjects heading this paragraph, Proc. 1872, p. 86; Proc. 1876, pp. 33, 127; Proc. 1878, pp. 18, 88.

APPEAL, ACCUSED ALONE ENTITLED TO.

Under the present Grand Lodge law, in the matter of charges of unmasonic conduct, no one can appeal but the accused brother.—Proc. 1871, p. 39; Id., p. 40. But see contra, Proc. 1893, pp. 81, 82.

APPEAL—ASSIGNMENTS OF ERROR—NEW TRIAL.

All questions assigned as errors of the trial Lodge should, on appeal, be shown to have been presented as reasons for a new trial.—Proc. 1892, p. 64.

APPEAL—CONCURRENCE IN REPORT ON UNMASONIC CONDUCT.

No appeal can be taken from the action of a Lodge in concurring in the report of a committee appointed to investigate the supposed unmasonic conduct of a brother.—Proc. 1853, p. 37.

APPEAL, DISMISSAL OF—NEW TRIAL.

After a party has filed his papers in an appeal, he can withdraw them and ask and receive a new trial in his Lodge. In a civil action in this State a party thereto has the control of his side of the case, and may withdraw or dismiss the same at any time before final judgment; so, in appeals from the action of a Lodge to the Grand Lodge, the party may withdraw or dismiss his appeal at any time before the final report of the committee to the Grand Lodge. The right of a Lodge to grant a new trial within a reasonable time is

the peculiar property of the Lodge, and should not be restricted.—Proc. 1875, pp. 34, 92.

APPEAL—IRREGULARITIES—CALLED MEETING.

At a called meeting to confer the degrees, the Worshipful Master decided the proceedings of the meeting held a week before—and at which he was not present—illegal and irregular, and arrested further action thereunder,—said proceedings having been the receiving of a petition, referring it to a committee, voting it a case of emergency, and ordering the committee to report instanter, receiving said report, adopting a resolution that the degrees be conferred on the petitioner free of charge, balloting on and declaring him elected, and setting the time for conferring the degrees at the present meeting. On appeal, the Grand Lodge held the decision of the Worshipful Master to be correct.—Proc. 1853, p. 42.

APPEAL, ON MERITS OF THE CASE.

The right of appeal to a higher tribunal, upon the merits of the case, is a most sacred right indeed. It is a principle of right that goes to the very foundation of all governments, civil or Masonic, and should never be restricted.—Proc. 1872, p. 82.

APPEAL—NOTICE OF INTENTION—MOTION FOR NEW TRIAL.

The Grand Lodge can summarily dismiss an appeal where the transcript fails to show that notice was given to the Lodge of intention to appeal; or that the appellant at any time made application for a new trial.—Proc. 1898, p. 65.

APPEAL—REJECTED APPLICANTS.

The Grand Lodge does not possess the power to revise the decisions of subordinate Lodges in the rejection of applicants for initiation into the mysteries of the Craft, or to membership in the Lodges.—Proc. 1857, p. 56.—In proceedings in the nature of an appeal, the Grand Lodge many years ago held that in rejecting an applicant the Lodges exercised one of their undoubted rights.—Proc. 1822, pp. 34, 35.

APPEAL—REVERSAL ON MERITS—RESTORATION.

When the judgment of a subordinate Lodge is reversed by the Grand Lodge on the merits of the case, the case is not thereby remanded for a new trial, unless so ordered by the Grand Lodge, but the defendant is restored to all the rights and privileges he possessed before the proceedings were originally instituted against him in the subordinate Lodge.—Proc. 1874, p. 90. Compare Proc. 1872, p. 82.

ASSESSMENT.

No assessment can be made or collected from the membership, except as dues, which must be provided for in the by-laws of the Lodge.—Proc. 1884, pp. 18, 93. See also Proc. 1895, pp. 27, 118.

ATTENDANCE AT A BROTHER'S OWN TRIAL NOT COMPULSORY.

A Lodge has no authority to charge, try, or expel a brother for refusing to be present at his own trial, nor is he guilty of unmasonic conduct for thus refusing to attend.—Proc. 1854, pp. 51, 52.

AUDITING COMMITTEE—MASTER AND WARDENS INELIGIBLE.

As the Worshipful Master and Wardens are responsible for the legal or illegal transactions of the Lodge,

it would not be competent for either of them to serve on the Auditing Committee.—Proc. 1895, p. 93.

BALLOT—ARREST, MOTION TO—LODGE ACTION.

A Worshipful Master having entertained a motion to stop the ballot after it had been ordered and partly taken, the Grand Master ruled that the motion to stop the ballot should not have been entertained, but having been entertained, and carried unanimously, the irregularity became the action of the Lodge. In approving this decision the Grand Lodge further held that when a ballot has been ordered by a vote of the Lodge, it is not within the province of the Master to arrest proceedings, under that order, without a vote to reconsider the ordering of such ballot; and that it is not proper for him to entertain a motion to arrest the taking of a ballot, after the question on such ballot has been put to the Lodge and is being taken.—Proc. 1876, pp. 22, 128. See also Proc. 1876, p. 90.

BALLOT FOR INITIATION—REGULAR MEETING.

No subordinate Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge shall ballot for the initiation of a candidate, except at a regular meeting of the lodge.—Proc. 1826, p. 34; Hacker's Rep., p. 184.

BALLOT, IMPERATIVE AFTER REPORT OF COMMITTEE.

It is imperative that a ballot be taken on each petition following the report of the Committee on Character, whether favorable or unfavorable. It is the vote of the Lodge that decides the question of the admission of a candidate.—Proc. 1896, pp. 28, 92.

BALLOT, POSTPONEMENT OF.

Upon an unfavorable report on a petition for restoration by one expelled for receiving the degrees under an assumed name, a ballot was ordered but the action postponed until the next stated meeting, when the applicant was restored by a majority vote. On appeal, the Grand Lodge held that there was nothing informal in the proceedings, unless it were in the postponement of the ballot, and that was to a stated meeting, when it was the privilege and duty of every member to be present; and the action of the Lodge was sustained.—Proc. 1876, p. 90. See Name Assumed.

BALLOT, RECONSIDERATION.

A ballot having been circulated to pass a brother to the second degree and found clear, a brother came into the Lodge during the [order of] balloting and desired to vote, a motion was made and carried to reconsider the vote, the ballot was again passed and the candidate thereon declared rejected. On appeal, the Grand Lodge sustained the action of the Lodge, on the ground that it is right to permit a brother to vote at any time before the Lodge confers the degree.—Proc. 1853, p. 37.

BALLOT—REJECTION DECLARED, CANNOT BE RETAKEN AT
SUBSEQUENT MEETING.

Where by oversight the ballot was not spread a second time, but the candidate was declared rejected, although only one black ball appeared, the ballot cannot be retaken at a subsequent meeting.—Proc. 1895, pp. 24, 118. The reconsideration of a secret ballot is not permitted under any circumstances.—Id. p. 92.

BALLOT, SECOND—ONE ELECTED TO RECEIVE ONE DEGREE
COULD BE SUBJECTED TO.

Under the law requiring a ballot for each degree, a brother was elected to receive the second degree, but before it was conferred rumors derogatory to his character were circulating, a committee was appointed to investigate the same, and, after said committee reported, the Lodge ordered another ballot, upon which the brother was rejected. On appeal from this proceeding, the Grand Lodge affirmed the action of the Lodge.—Proc. 1853, pp. 36, 38.

BALLOT, SECRECY OF UNQUESTIONABLE.

The brethren of a Lodge have no right to question the vote of a brother, or inquire the reason for said vote. Each brother votes for himself, and no one is at liberty to question that vote, nor the motive which induced it.—Proc. 1854, p. 66. Nor can any question of such vote be raised in the Grand Lodge by a memorial of a rejected petitioner for membership claiming that such vote was cast by improper motives.—Proc. 1856, p. 47.

BALLOT, NOT TO BE QUESTIONED—SECRECY—FINALITY.

A rejected applicant for membership cannot be permitted afterward to complain that the single black ball against him was cast by a non-affiliated Mason; and although such non-affiliated Mason may have voted without right, no one but himself could know, or had a right to know, what kind of a vote he cast. The ballot being unfavorable, the applicant was rejected, and that was the end of it.—Proc. 1876, pp. 31, 127.

BALLOT—SECRECY—CANNOT BE QUESTIONED.

If a person applying for the degrees of Masonry should be black-balled, and there are reasons to believe it was done to injure the Lodge, or on account of a personal grudge, yet there is no remedy. It is a Masonic offense for a brother to disclose his ballot, whether it be black or white. He is presumed to be actuated by pure motives in casting his ballot, and acting for the best interests of Masonry. His motive cannot be questioned.—Proc. 1893, pp. 23, 24, 65.

BALLOT, MUST BE SEPARATE ON EACH APPLICATION.

Where several applications for membership [or the degrees] are pending before the Lodge, each must be voted upon separately. No joint ballot upon all can be taken. The policy of Masonry is to require every candidate to stand upon his own merits. He must run the gauntlet of a ballot alone and unaided by association with others.—Proc. 1895, pp. 27, 118.

BALLOT, WRITTEN IMPROPER IN MASONIC TRIAL.

A vote on finding guilty, or inflicting a penalty, can only be by ball ballots. It is a very grave error to take the vote in such cases by ayes and nays or written ballots collected by tellers appointed for that purpose.—Proc. 1873, pp. 60, 61. But upon appeal such error is not fatal.—Proc. 1876, pp. 28, 130. See Trial—Question of Guilt.

BEGGING PAPERS CONDEMNED—DUTY TO TRAVELERS.

It is very inexpedient for any Lodge or brother to endorse begging papers for any person in order that said person may beg from Lodge to Lodge; but if a

person shall be found traveling for said purpose, it shall be the duty of the Lodge or brother to whom he may come to endeavor to set such traveling person on work, if the same can be had; if not, then to help such person, if found worthy, on his way, that he may be able to find employ, and work for his wages, that the Craft may be honored thereby and not brought into disrepute.—Proc. 1849, p. 54.

BEGGING LETTERS AND CIRCULARS.

The too common system of sending mendicant appeals over the country is degrading to our Fraternity and derogatory to our individual character, and too strong terms cannot be used in denouncing such acts on the part of subordinate Lodges; and any Lodge hereafter found indulging in such improprieties will become proper subjects of Masonic discipline by the Grand Master.—Proc. 1877, pp. 41, 140.

BEGGING CIRCULARS.

The practice of issuing begging circulars under the guise of charity, for any imaginable purpose, by Masonic Lodges, or individual Masons, is wrong and contrary to the views of the Grand Lodge; and Lodges are forbidden to issue any such circulars, and in doing so hereafter will subject themselves to discipline from the Grand Master or the Grand Lodge.—Proc. 1888, pp. 128, 129; Proc. 1889, pp. 16, 32; Proc. 1890, pp. 35, 36, 96; Proc. 1891, pp. 21, 22, 111; Proc. 1894, p. 68; Id. p. 68; Proc. 1897, pp. 15, 16; Proc. 1898, pp. 15, 121.

BLACK-BALLING—CHARGES AND TRIAL FOR.

A brother cannot be charged and tried for rejecting

a candidate, unless it is evident that he [has] done so for the purpose of arresting the work of the Lodge. —Proc. 1859, p. 38.

BURIAL OF A SUSPENDED OR EXPELLED MASON.

It is the unquestionable right of the Grand Master to suspend the functions of a Lodge for having buried with Masonic honors a suspended or expelled Mason; and such misconduct can only be condoned, if at all, upon the strongest circumstances of mitigation. —Proc. 1873, pp. 14, 59.

BUSINESS, DISPOSED OF AT ONE MEETING CANNOT AGAIN BE
ACTED ON AT ANOTHER.

At a meeting of a Lodge a resolution was introduced requesting the Grand Lodge to restore an expelled brother, and upon a vote being taken it was declared lost by the Master—though there was a small majority of votes in favor of its adoption—because the by-laws required a vote of two-thirds in such cases, and an appeal was taken from this ruling. At a subsequent meeting a petition was presented asking the Lodge to consent to the same brother's restoration and to recommend it to the Grand Lodge. The Worshipful Master ruled, as out of order, a motion to grant said petition, because it was the same subject-matter that had been acted upon at the previous meeting, and from the decision of which an appeal had been taken. On appeal from this last ruling, the Grand Lodge sustained the decision of the Master, with the argument that neither harmony nor fair-dealing is conducted by entertaining a matter in the Lodge, after it has been once disposed of; that when a question has

been fairly presented and disposed of, the members have a right to presume that it will not again be called up, otherwise the action at one meeting may be rendered nugatory at the next; and that it would be foolish for a Master to entertain a proposition which had been previously decided upon, and from which decision an appeal had been taken, as such a course would tend to produce confusion in the Lodge, and the accumulation of appeals.—Proc. 1858, p. 75; Proc. 1892, pp. 14, 59. See also Proc. 1863, p. 39. But contra, as to called meetings on the subject of Masonic burial—Proc. 1869, p. 51. See also Proc. 1822, p. 34.

BY-LAWS—ABSENCE OF—GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS.

While the Grand Lodge has provided a code of General Regulations, and the by-laws which a Lodge has a right to adopt must be in harmony therewith, yet should a Lodge have been working without adopting such by-laws, such Lodge would nevertheless for the time be working under the Constitution, Rules and Regulations of the Grand Lodge, and the work so done be legal and good.—Proc. 1897, pp. 27, 82.

BY-LAWS—BUSINESS—RULES OF ORDER.

Rules of order should not have the binding force of a by-law, and should be inserted after the by-laws, as a matter of convenience.—Proc. 1896, pp. 59, 61. The order of business should not have the binding force of a by-law, but should be left to the proper discretion of the Worshipful Master and the Lodge, which might be varied at times to suit the convenience of all, and be inserted after the by-laws, as a matter of

form.—Id. p. 64. The order of business should not be in the body of the by-laws, but be inserted as an addendum.—Id. p. 75.

BY-LAW—FEE TO ACCOMPANY PETITION—CANNOT FORFEIT—
RETURN OF.

While a Lodge may go further than the General Regulations, and require the fee to accompany the petition, yet in case the petitioner, after election, does not present himself for initiation, the fee should not by any such improper by-law be held forfeited. The candidate must enter Masonry of his own free will and accord, and has a right to withdraw and proceed no further up to the time of his initiation, and this right cannot properly be fettered by a condition of forfeiture of the fee. When a candidate for Masonic degrees, having paid the fee in advance, and for any cause he fails to receive any of the degrees, the fee so paid should be returned to him.—Proc. 1895, pp. 16, 83. As to last clause of the above digest, see contra, Proc. 1897, pp. 19, 20, 80.

BY-LAWS—IMPROPER PROVISIONS.

The requirement—in a by-law—that dues must be paid as a qualification to vote or hold office is unlawful; or to allow a member to be excused from voting when the ballot is for membership or for the degrees; or, at present, to require a ballot for each degree—Proc. 1891, p. 59; Proc. 1892, p. 53—or for the investigation of complaints against brethren by a standing committee.—Proc. 1892, pp. 23, 52; Proc. 1896, p. 58.

BY-LAWS—TRUSTEES, NOT NEEDED.

The Grand Lodge held the action of the Grand Master in not approving by-laws providing for the conduct of the business of the Lodge by trustees, as being at variance with the general Masonic polity, to be correct. The statutes of the State of Indiana make full and ample provision for the conduct of the business of the Lodge under the name and title of the Master and Wardens of Lodge No. —, with all necessary powers for the purchase and sale of real and personal property.—Proc. 1892, pp. 23, 52; Proc. 1893, pp. 18, 65.

CHARACTER, COMMITTEE ON—NEW MAY BE APPOINTED—
INVESTIGATION, TIME FOR—DUTY OF.

Where a Committee on Character fails to report at the proper time, the Lodge may order a new committee; the Master exceeds his authority when he orders said new committee to report without giving time for investigation; and a committee reporting without satisfactory knowledge is derelict in Masonic duty.—Proc. 1892, pp. 13, 59. As to last clause of the above, see also Proc. 1898, pp. 54, 55.

CHARGES—ANY AFFILIATED MASON MAY PREFER—
JURISDICTION.

Under existing rules any affiliated Mason may prefer charges, not only in the Lodge of the accused, but in any Lodge within whose jurisdiction he may live, or go into and there commit an offense against Masonry. This right exists not only by virtue of the laws of the Grand Lodge, but lies at the very foundation of the character, usefulness and harmony of the universal Masonic Brotherhood.—Proc. 1871, p. 47.

CHARGES—ANY MEMBER MAY PREFER.

Any member of a Lodge, who has been misused or aggrieved, may prefer charges. Charges for unma-sonic conduct should be accompanied with specifications before the charge is entertained by the Lodge.—Proc. 1859, p. 38.

CHARGES—DISMISSED—AMENDMENT AT SUBSEQUENT MEETING.

Where charges were on motion stricken out for insufficiency, at the time set for trial, and at the following stated meeting the accuser stated that he was unable to attend the meeting fixed for the trial, and now asked that he be granted the privilege of amending his charges, which request the Master refused to grant, the Grand Lodge, on appeal from this decision, held that the ruling made by the Worshipful Master was correct; that the action of the Lodge was equivalent to a dismissal of the charges, and therefore, when the accuser asked leave to amend, there were no charges pending.—Proc. 1892, pp. 72, 73.

CHARGES—PRESUMPTION THAT THEY ARE SIGNED BY AN
AFFILIATED MASTER MASON.

It is not an indispensable requirement that charges must affirmatively show that they are signed by an affiliated Mason. The burden of proof that such signer is not a Mason, or not an affiliated Mason, rests upon the defendant.—Proc. 1898, pp. 69, 70.

CHARGES—TIME AND PLACE—REASONABLE CERTAINTY.

Where an accused is not charged with the doing of an isolated act, capable of being precisely and specifically charged as having occurred on any given day, or at any one place, but the wrongful acts of alienating

the affections, and seducing from her loyalty to her husband, the wife of a brother, began on or about a specified day and year, and were continuous from that date until the time of the filing of the charges, and that such acts terminated in the permanent separation of the husband and wife, and in the destruction of her good name, the averments of time and place were held sufficient by the Grand Lodge. Such an offense merits the highest penalty known to Masonic law.—Proc. 1891, pp. 70, 71.

CHARGES, WITHDRAWAL—DISMISSAL.

Charges, when once read and spread upon the minutes, cannot be withdrawn by the brother who preferred them, without the consent of the Lodge given upon a majority vote.—Proc. 1873, pp. 17, 64, 65, 88. Also Proc. 1874, p. 81; Proc. 1878, p. 22; Proc. 1886, p. 34; Proc. 1890, p. 81. Nor with such consent.—Proc. 1880, p. 114.

CHARGES—SPECIFICATIONS—WITHDRAWAL—DISMISSAL—LODGE

Subordinate Lodges can, by a majority vote, dismiss or withdraw charges or specifications against a brother.—Proc. 1874, p. 81. Also Proc. 1873, pp. 17, 64, 65, 88; Proc. 1878, pp. 20, 22, 88; Proc. 1886, p. 34. But see contra, Proc. 1880, p. 114; Proc. 1890, p. 81.

CHARGES—WITHDRAWAL—DISMISSAL OF CASE.

At the time set for the trial of an accused, a motion was made to withdraw the charges and dismiss the case, which motion prevailed. On appeal, the Grand Lodge held that the Lodge erred in allowing the charges to be withdrawn, and that they should have

proceeded with the trial and determined the guilt or innocence of the accused by the evidence.—Proc. 1880, p. 114; Proc. 1890, p. 81.

CHARITY—DESTITUTION, SICKNESS AND DEATH.

All expenses connected with the sickness and funeral of a Master Mason in good standing, wherever he may travel or go, regardless of the country or clime from whence he came, should he be destitute when taken sick or stricken down, should be borne by the Master Masons individually or the Lodge having the jurisdiction in the premises; and it is not in accordance with Masonic law or precedent to ask the Lodge of his affiliation to pay the same.—Proc. 1869, p. 65. Also Proc. 1873, p. 70; Proc. 1880, p. 119; Proc. 1890, pp. 14, 15, 95; Proc. 1891, pp. 12, 109.

CHARITY—FUNERAL EXPENSES—NO REIMBURSEMENT.

It is not in accordance with Masonic law or precedent to ask the Lodge with which he was affiliated to pay the expenses of burying a brother who had died under the jurisdiction of another Lodge. A Master Mason in good standing is justly entitled to all the rights and benefits of Masonry, not only while under the jurisdiction of the Lodge which made him a Mason, or with which he may have subsequently affiliated, but he may claim them of any Lodge in the world under whose jurisdiction he may happen to be. His Lodge extends from East to West and from North to South, and may he always find Masonic charity equally extensive.—Proc. 1873, p. 70. See also Proc. 1869, p. 65; Proc. 1880, pp. 23, 119; Proc. 1890, pp. 14, 15, 95; Proc. 1891, pp. 12, 109.

CHARITY, GRAND LODGE CANNOT DISPENSE.

The Grand Lodge has no authority, either in her written laws or in precedent, for the bestowal of personal charity. If a worthy Master Mason, or his widow or orphans, are in need of assistance, they have a right to call on the subordinate Lodges, or on any Master Mason individually, for relief. But the Grand Lodge has no power to afford it; it is wholly with the subordinate Lodges.—Proc. 1865, p. 65.

CHARITY—GRAND LODGE—SUBORDINATE LODGES—MEMBERS.

The great objects of Masonry are benevolence and charity; but the prerogatives of the Grand Lodge are purely legislative and judicial, and not designed for the immediate distribution of individual beneficence. To relieve the suffering and distressed is the duty of subordinate Lodges, and the members of the Fraternity.—Proc. 1873, pp. 75, 76. See also Proc. 1896, pp. 95, 96.

CHARITY—LODGE FUNDS.

The Grand Lodge has not the power of controlling the charity of any subordinate Lodge, and the charity fund of each and every Lodge is under its own control.—Proc. 1862, p. 45. See also Proc. 1869, p. 65; Proc. 1873, p. 70; Proc. 1880, p. 119; Proc. 1890, pp. 15, 95.

CHARITY—REIMBURSEMENT NOT OBLIGATORY.

Where the widow of a member of one Lodge resides in the jurisdiction of another Lodge which gives her assistance, the latter has no claim against the former therefor.—Proc. 1864, p. 76.

CHARITY—REIMBURSEMENT NOT OBLIGATORY.

There is no law or rule in Masonry that places the treasury of one Lodge at the mercy or disposal of another; consequently, when a Lodge contributes to the relief of anyone, it is her own voluntary act, and for which she can have no legal claim upon any other Lodge whatever.—Proc. 1868, p. 47; Proc. 1880, p. 119; Proc. 1890, pp. 15, 95; Proc. 1891, pp. 12, 109; Proc. 1892, pp. 53, 54; Proc. 1895, pp. 23, 24, 118; Id. p. 95; Proc. 1896, p. 84.

CHARTER—CONDITIONAL SURRENDER.

While any subordinate Lodge, whether in arrears or otherwise, is authorized and empowered voluntarily to surrender its charter, no Lodge can make a conditional surrender of its charter, and if it wishes to dispose of its personal property over and above what its dues to the Grand Lodge may amount to, it must be done before its charter is surrendered, as upon the surrender its tools, jewels, furniture, books and papers are forfeited to the Grand Lodge.—Proc. 1829, p. 29; Hacker's Rep., p. 237. See also Proc. 1880, pp. 9, 68, 79, 80.

CHARTER, CONSTITUTIONAL NUMBER CAN RETAIN.

A constitutional number of members [seven] belonging to any subordinate Lodge within the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge is authorized to continue their work and retain their charter, although a majority of the members of said Lodge have voted to surrender the same.—Proc. 1860, p. 126. [Referred to

Committee on Charters, which failed to report on it.]

CHARTER, SURRENDER OF—SALE OF PROPERTY—FRAUD
AGAINST GRAND LODGE.

Where, at a stated meeting, a Lodge appointed two committees to sell all its property, except columns, jewels, etc., and later at the same meeting submitted a proposition to surrender its charter, which proposition under the law was laid over till the next stated meeting, at which time the sale of said property for a large sum in cash was reported, out of which some debts and the Grand Lodge dues were ordered paid, and nearly all the balance—a large sum—was donated, in various amounts, to four of the members, without giving any reason for such donations, leaving only a very small sum remaining; and after these proceedings, and at the same meeting, by a unanimous vote of seven, the charter was surrendered, resulting in the delivery of the charter, jewels, records, and said small sum in cash to the Grand Secretary; the Grand Lodge held that the Lodge, having thus converted its property into money for the sole purpose and with the view of surrendering its charter, it had no power or right to use or dispose of the moneys thus raised for any other purpose than to pay its just debts, Grand Lodge dues, and for purposes of charity; and that the making of said donations was wrong and unmasonic, and that the money so disposed of was, on the surrender of the charter, the property of the Grand Lodge, and should have been so reported and turned over.—Proc. 1880, pp. 9, 68, 79, 80. See also Proc. 1829, p. 29; Hacker's Rep., p. 237.

CHARTER AND JEWELS—TAKING, CONCEALING AND KEEPING.

The taking, concealing and keeping, by a brother, of the charter and jewels of a Lodge, notwithstanding numerous committees and brethren had called upon and requested him to deliver the same to the Lodge, is one of the most aggravated, unlawful and unjust offenses that is found in the calendar of Masonic crimes, and justly merits the punishment of expulsion.—Proc. 1858, pp. 57, 58. Compare also Proc. 1856, p. 52; and Proc. 1870, p. 39, as to Secretary's book.

CHARTER, UNCONDITIONAL SURRENDER OF.

Any subordinate Lodge, whether in arrears or otherwise, is authorized and empowered to voluntarily surrender its charter to this Grand Lodge, or to the Grand Secretary thereof, in vacation, with or without payment of its arrears, and the Grand Secretary is required to receive the same, and take possession of the jewels and other personal property belonging to such subordinate Lodge at the time of such surrender. No such Lodge, however, can make a conditional surrender of its charter, but if it wishes to dispose of its personal property, over and above what its dues to the Grand Lodge may amount to, it must be done before its charter is surrendered, as such surrender works a forfeiture of all such property to the Grand Lodge.—Proc. 1829, p. 29; Hacker's Rep., p. 237. [No record of adoption, but followed in practice.]

CIPHER RITUALS.

The employment of cipher texts of the work, and the open use of books while the degrees are being conferred, is an unlawful and disreputable proceeding,

and the righteous condemnation by the Grand Master of such unworthy practices should be heeded throughout this Grand Jurisdiction, so that it may not become necessary to make them the subject of future penal legislation.—Proc. 1897, p. 88. See also Proc. 1873, p. 59.

CIVIL COURTS, LODGE MAY ARBITRATE AFTER RESORT TO.

Though members may have gone into a civil court to settle difficulties between them, this will not prohibit them from afterwards bringing such difficulties before the Lodge. It is a most sacred right—as old as Masonry itself—that a member of the Order may submit any and all matters of grievance to the decision and award of his brethren.—Proc. 1872, pp. 82, 83.

CONSOLIDATED LODGES—WORK—FEE—DISCIPLINE.

Where two Lodges are consolidated, the Lodge so created takes up and finishes the work begun in either or both of said Lodges before the act of consolidation.—Proc. 1880, p. 22. No further petition is necessary to the completion of such work, and no further fee is required beyond that already paid.—Proc. 1890, pp. 103, 132. Can discipline former members of original Lodges.—Proc. 1892, pp. 12, 59.

CONSTITUTION, GRAND, MUST BE READ.

The Master of each subordinate Lodge [shall] be required to read the Grand Constitution and the proceedings of the Grand Lodge within his Lodge, to the members thereof, at least twice in each year.—Proc. 1828, p. 49; Hacker's Rep., p. 221.

CONTINUANCE—CONFESSION OF GUILT—APPEAL.

At the time fixed for trial, the accused asked for a continuance on account of the absence of his attorney, and, upon being refused, he then confessed guilty to all the specifications except one, which was accordingly withdrawn. Upon his statement of the case he was found guilty and expelled. In his appeal he assigned as error the refusal to grant the continuance as asked for, and upon the grounds presented. The Grand Lodge held that, while it would not have been improper under the circumstances to have granted his request, it would not reverse the decision below; nor grant a new trial in a case, although some request in the preliminary proceedings had not been complied with, which might have been properly granted, unless the appellant had suffered some wrong from the action of the Lodge, which he had not in this case.—Proc. 1873, p. 56.

CONTINUANCE—REFUSAL—WITNESS.

It is not error for the Worshipful Master, presiding over a Masonic trial, to refuse to continue the case on account of the absence of a witness, unless it is brought to the knowledge of the Master that such witness is in possession of facts material to the interests of the party asking such continuance.—Proc. 1879, p. 52.

CROSS'S CHART.

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge recommend to subordinate Lodges under its jurisdiction, the adoption of a uniform mode of working agreeably to the principles of illustrative Masonry, as laid down by

Brother Cross, in his Lectures and Monitor [Chart].
—Proc. 1823, pp. 63, 64; Hacker's Rep., p. 124.

DAUGHTER, OF A MASTER MASON, LETTERS TO FROM MARRIED
MASTER MASON.

It is an offense worthy of expulsion for a Master Mason who is a husband and father, having a true and virtuous wife, to write letters filled with fervent protestations of love to a young and innocent girl, the daughter of a Master Mason, and containing also serious accusations against his own wife, and by means of such letters inducing the recipient to visit an international fair with him, and also to meet him alone after dark some distance from her home, even though there occurred no criminal intimacy between them and no violation of civil law. A man who is not conscious of moral wrong in so doing is so void of moral sense that he is utterly unable to comprehend the teachings of the plumb and the square and to understand what is meant by the admonition to walk uprightly before God and man and to square his actions by the square of virtue.—Proc. 1894, pp. 71, 72, 73.

DEATH—CHARGES—MASONIC RIGHTS.

A member under charges for non-payment of dues, loses none of his Masonic rights.—Proc. 1876, pp. 33, 127. On Abatement on account of, see Proc. 1872, p. 86; Proc. 1874, pp. 83, 84; Proc. 1875, p. 94; Proc. 1878, pp. 18, 88.

DEBT—FALSEHOOD—FRAUD.

A man may very well make a promise to pay in good faith, even though he may be in debt ever so much, but when a deliberate falsehood is told in order

to deceive the man from whom the money is borrowed, it is a proper conclusion from such falsehood that deception and fraud were intended.—Proc. 1888, p. 39. But such matter of fraud must be set out in the charges, and be proven.—Id. p. 34.

DEBT, INABILITY TO PAY—MASONRY NOT A COLLECTING AGENCY.

An accused, if unfortunate in his personal affairs, ought not to be turned out of Masonry on that account. Masonry is not a collecting agency. The courts are open, and the place to advance or assert civil remedies can be found elsewhere than in a Masonic Lodge. Masonry does not require one Mason to lend his name as surety on a note for another. He may do so if he chooses, but it is not a crime in Masonry to become so poor in the world's goods that he cannot, at any given time, pay all his debts. It is the duty of a Mason to pay his debts, but it is not just to expel a Mason because misfortune overtakes him at some period of his life.—Proc. 1884, p. 49; Proc. 1886, p. 39; Proc. 1888, p. 34; Proc. 1889, pp. 46, 47; Proc. 1893, pp. 24, 65; Proc. 1898, p. 66.

DEBT—INABILITY TO PAY—MASONRY NOT A COLLECTION BUREAU.

The finding and penalty of expulsion by a Lodge was reversed for reasons among which are: that the evidence did not show that the accused was able to pay and refused to do so, but did pay a part of the debt in work and merchandise, and evinced a disposition to pay the balance as soon as he was able to do so; that the penalty inflicted would be excessive even if the

accused were guilty. While Masons should be honest with all men, yet Masonry should not be converted into a collection bureau or an engine of oppression to force money out of the unfortunate.—Proc. 1882, p. 70; Proc. 1893, pp. 24, 65. See also Proc. 1856, p. 48.

DEBT—LAW-SUIT.

A Mason can sue a brother Mason, without first bringing the subject before the Lodge. He has a perfect right to collect his debts, the same as any other man.—Proc. 1876, pp. 32, 127.

DEBT TO LODGE, DISCIPLINE, NOT CAUSE FOR UNLESS FRAUD IS CHARGED.

An indebtedness to a Lodge (other than the non-payment of dues) which cannot be collected by a legal procedure, cannot be made the ground of Masonic discipline, unless fraud upon the Lodge is charged.—Proc. 1892, pp. 14, 59. Compare Proc. 1872, p. 44.

DEBT TO LODGE—NON-PAYMENT A MASONIC OFFENSE.

Without considering the extent of the principle that “Masonic tribunals do not assume to adjust mere legal rights, pecuniary or otherwise,” the Lodge is an interested party where an accused is charged with refusing to pay money justly due to it; and if he is found guilty thereof, by the evidence, he is guilty of violating one of the principal points of his Masonic obligation. It is clearly a proper subject of investigation by the Lodge, with the hope that it may be effectually if not satisfactorily adjusted within itself, and, in case of a failure, to make the civil courts the last resort.—Proc. 1872, p. 44. But see Proc. 1892, pp. 14, 59.

DEBT—MISFORTUNE—OLD AGE.

Where an accused was tried and expelled on charges of having borrowed money which he failed to repay, and purchasing goods and not paying for them, and where it appeared from the evidence that his leading creditors well knew that he was in debt when they let him have the money; that he used no deception to get the money, and but for a bank failure would have paid it all back; but finally claimed the benefit of exemption, when driven to the wall; the Grand Lodge held that a Mason has a right to make any promise that he believes, and has reason to believe, he can fulfill, and that it is not a fraud, in such a case, if misfortune overtakes him and he cannot carry out his promises made in good faith; and that in such a case, where his creditors crowded him, and, being an old man, he was compelled to succumb, it was a wrong thing to do, under the circumstances, to harness him up before the Lodge and drive him out, never to return. He committed no Masonic crime.—Proc. 1884, pp. 52, 53; Proc. 1886, p. 39. If a failure to pay is in some way tainted with fraud, this must be set out in the charges, and be proven.—Proc. 1888, p. 34; Proc. 1889, pp. 46, 47; Proc. 1898, p. 66.

DEBT, NON-PAYMENT—FRAUD.

A brother was suspended by his Lodge upon charges,—1st, That he had not paid a debt due from him to a Master Mason when the brother was in need of the money to support himself and family; and 2d, That he had run in debt beyond his ability to pay at the time agreed upon. The Grand Lodge, on appeal,

held that, in the absence of proof under the first charge of his ability to pay, and upon evidence showing his inability to pay his debts, though ever so willing; and in the absence of evidence, under the second charge, showing any fraudulent conduct or purpose on his part to obtain credit, the judgment must be reversed.—Proc. 1856, p. 48.

DEGREES, WHEN TO BE CONFERRED—SUITABLE PROFICIENCY.

No dispensation is necessary to confer degrees upon candidates at intervals of less than a month between the different degrees. No further time need intervene than is requisite to enable the candidate to make suitable proficiency. Care should, however, be exercised that he does this thoroughly.—Proc. 1895, pp. 23, 118; Proc. 1819, p. 11; Hacker's Rep., p. 37.

DIMIT—APPLICATION—ACTION OF LODGE CONSTITUTES—WITHOUT KNOWLEDGE OR CONSENT OF THE MEMBER, VOID.

After the removal of a brother to another State, a member of the Lodge obtained a dimit for such brother, without his consent; and about eight months later the brother informed the Lodge that he had not desired the dimit, but wished to retain his membership, whereupon the Lodge rescinded the resolution granting the dimit. On appeal from this proceeding, the Committee on Grievances reported that it is the action of a Lodge, and not the certificate of the Secretary, that constitutes a dimit, the latter only furnishing evidence of such action; that it is not competent for a Lodge to dimit one of its members except upon his application, either in person or by some brother duly authorized to make the same; and that the ac-

tion of a Lodge granting a dimit without the knowledge or consent of the brother named is irregular and void.—Proc. 1856, pp. 21, 22. [The Proceedings are silent as to the adoption of this and other reports of the Committee on Grievances that year.]

DIMIT, ACTION OF LODGE CONSTITUTES.

A Lodge which has granted a brother a dimit, all dues being paid, cannot afterwards withhold the certificate, declare him a member, and then prefer charges against and suspend him from all the rights and privileges of Masonry.—Proc. 1866, p. 65. But when charges are pending against a member, his application for a dimit should be refused.—Proc. 1868, p. 56.

DIMIT, CONDITIONAL—UNMASONIC CONDUCT AFTERWARDS.

Where a dimit was granted on condition upon payment of dues, and the brother did not comply with the condition until the expiration of eight months, when he offered to pay the dues and demanded a certificate of his dimission, and the Worshipful Master then refused to permit the issuance of the certificate, and declared the former order of the Lodge void on the ground that the brother had been guilty of unmasonic conduct between the date of the action granting the dimit and the application for the certificate, the Grand Lodge, on appeal, held that it would have been proper for the Lodge to have directed the Secretary to withhold the certificate, but that it was not competent for the Master to declare the action of the Lodge void; and reversed the decision of the Master, and instructed the Lodge to prefer charges against said brother and

try him for any unmasonic conduct of which he may have been guilty, and in default thereof ordered that the dimit in question be issued.—Proc. 1857, pp. 63, 64. Compare also Proc. 1866, p. 65.

DIMIT—DUES—CHARGES.

Where a brother has paid his dues and there are no charges against him, a Lodge cannot refuse him a dimit simply because he refuses to pay the costs of taking depositions—even though used in his own behalf—in a case which he appealed, the Grand Lodge remanded, and his own Lodge dropped and discontinued.—Proc. 1898, pp. 118, 119.

DIMIT—DURATION—NO LIMIT.

There is no limit as to how long a certificate of dimit shall run before it expires. It remains good until cancelled by due process of law, or until deposited with a Lodge on admission to membership.—Proc. 1880, p. 23.

DIMIT—FEE FOR.

A subordinate Lodge cannot by its By-laws require a dimitting brother to pay a fee to the Secretary for his dimit.—Proc. 1894, p. 9. A Lodge may charge a reasonable fee for a certificate of dimit, to be fixed by the By-laws.—Proc. 1895, pp. 24, 118.

DIMIT—IMPÉRATIVE TO GRANT, DUES PAID AND NO CHARGES.

Where a brother accompanied his application for a dimit with the receipt of the Secretary of the Lodge showing that his dues were paid to date, and upon a vote of the Lodge the dimit was refused, the Grand Lodge held, on appeal from this action of the Lodge,

that membership in a Masonic Lodge is voluntary, and a member free from charges, and whose dues are fully paid, is entitled to a dimit, and that the Lodge erred in not granting it; and ordered the Lodge to issue a dimit to the brother at its earliest convenience.—Proc. 1892, pp. 98, 99. A Lodge cannot, under Masonic usage and tradition, force a brother to remain in a Lodge when he desires to dimit. A vote of the Lodge is proper, so that the records of the Lodge may show such dimission.—Id. p. 105.

DIMIT—RECEIPT OF GRAND SECRETARY—DEFUNCT LODGE.

All persons members of Lodges whose charters have been surrendered or arrested, and who were indebted to said Lodge for dues, upon application to become a member in any other Lodge in the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, shall first pay over to the Grand Secretary the amount of his indebtedness to the former Lodge, and the Grand Secretary's receipt therefor shall serve as a dimit.—Proc. 1860, p. 99.

DIMIT—REMOVAL FROM JURISDICTION—CHARGES AFTER.

A Lodge which has granted a brother a dimit has no power to prefer charges against him after he has moved from its jurisdiction.—Proc. 1893, pp. 25, 65.

DIMIT—RESIGNING OFFICE NOT A PREREQUISITE.

A Worshipful Master has a right to dimit from his Lodge without first resigning his office. Membership is at all times voluntary.—Proc. 1893, pp. 23, 65.

DIMIT, VOTE OF THE LODGE CONSTITUTES—CONDITIONAL.

The vote of the Lodge granting a dimit, dimits the brother, and can at no subsequent communication be

reconsidered. Nor can the brother applying for a dimit set at naught the action of the Lodge by refusing to pay his dues, where the granting of the dimit was on that condition. But he will not be entitled to a certificate of his dimit until his dues are paid.—Proc. 1874, pp. 17, 90.

DIMIT—VOTE GRANTING CONSTITUTES.

A vote granting a dimit, severs connection with the Lodge. The dimit is only a certificate of the fact. The vote granting a dimit cannot be reconsidered at a subsequent meeting of the Lodge.—Proc. 1892, pp. 14, 59.

DIMITTED MASON, NOT A CRIME TO BE.

To be a dimitted Mason is no Masonic crime, although it may be a fault.—Proc. 1872, p. 86.

DISCIPLINE—VOLUNTARY NON-AFFILIATE.

A brother who has deprived himself of certain specified rights by voluntarily failing to affiliate for a period of six months, is not the less subject to discipline by the Lodge in whose jurisdiction he resides, for any breach of the General Masonic Code.—Proc. 1892, pp. 13, 59.

DROPPING FROM THE ROLLS.

The inestimable rights and privileges of Masonry are far too sacred to be forfeited by mere operation of law; and the present law by which a Mason can only be deprived of these by trial upon regularly preferred charges is founded upon the highest principles of justice and wisdom.—Proc. 1897, p. 85; Id. p. 107.

DUES, CANNOT BE CHARGED DURING SUSPENSION.

A subordinate Lodge cannot charge a brother with dues during his suspension.—Proc. 1863, p. 48. See also Proc. 1859, p. 37; Proc. 1845, p. 21; Hacker's Rep., p. 447.

DUES—CLASS LEGISLATION AND DISTINCTIONS UNLAWFUL.

A resolution providing that each member of the Lodge who has been a member for five or more years shall be credited with five dollars on his dues is null and void, and must be disregarded.—Proc. 1898, pp. 13, 14, 77.

DUES—NON-PAYMENT—CHARGES—TRIAL.

Although, in a case of non-payment of dues, the law provides that the account current against the delinquent member shall be deemed sufficient charge and specification upon which to place him upon trial, it was not the intention of the Grand Lodge, in the adoption of that section, to do away with any of the usual formalities prescribed as a means to insure a just and fair administration of the law. No Mason can be reprimanded, suspended or expelled for any cause whatever, except upon written charges and specifications, and ten days' notice of the time and place of trial. All the other formalities and requirements necessary to a trial must, in such case, as well as in other cases, be observed.—Proc. 1892, pp. 67, 68.

DUES—NON-PAYMENT—DISCIPLINE.

Each and every subordinate Lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction possesses the right to reprimand, suspend, or expel a member for the non-payment of dues.—Proc. 1863, p. 56.

DUES—NON-PAYMENT—DISCIPLINE—NOTICE.

It is highly improper for any subordinate Lodge working under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge to suspend or expel any member for the non-payment of dues without notice to the member charged, where notice can be given, as in other cases of unmasonic conduct.—Proc. 1823, p. 72; Hacker's Rep., p. 126; Proc. 1848, p. 52; Proc. 1849, p. 37.

DUES—NON-PAYMENT—EXPULSION, SUSPENSION—RESTORATION.

A brother expelled for non-payment of dues, when the law authorized such penalty for that offense, may be restored in the manner now prescribed and in force for restoration from suspension for non-payment of dues.—Proc. 1892, pp. 14, 59.

DUES—NON-PAYMENT—FORFEITURE OF MEMBERSHIP—RIGHT OF DEFENSE—NOTICE—ACTION OF LODGE.

A fair construction of a by-law providing "that twelve months' delinquency, or six months' absence from the Lodge without, shall operate as a forfeiture of membership unless the absence be unavoidable," would prevent the suspension of any member until after notice had been given him, and an opportunity of defense afforded. Until some action is taken by the Lodge and forfeiture enforced, the right of membership remains unimpaired.—Proc. 1839, p. 7; Hacker's Rep., pp. 326, 327.

DUES—NON-PAYMENT—PENALTY, BALLOT ON NOT REQUIRED.

When a brother has been tried for non-payment of dues, and has by a ballot been found guilty, a second ballot is not necessary for the affixing of the penalty.

The law expressly provides that no penalty can be inflicted in such case but that of indefinite suspension, and a ballot on this question would be a meaningless formality. In such case, after the Lodge has taken a ballot on the question of guilt, and the accused has been found guilty, the Worshipful Master may, after the result of that ballot is announced, at once declare the accused indefinitely suspended.—Proc. 1895, pp. 96, 97. See also *Id.* pp. 26, 27, 118, 119, 120.

EASTERN STAR, ORDER OF—LODGE HALL.

In a case where charges were preferred against a number of members of a Lodge of Master Masons for unmasonic conduct, the specification being that they permitted a Chapter of the Eastern Star to meet in the hall of said Lodge, the Worshipful Master ruled the charges out of order. On an appeal from this decision, the Grand Lodge sustained the ruling of the Worshipful Master.—Proc. 1880, p. 55.

EASTERN STAR, ORDER OF—LODGE ROOMS—SIDE DEGREES.

It is not a violation of the Rules of the Grand Lodge for Lodges to permit their Lodge rooms to be used for the meetings of what is known as "Chapters of the Eastern Star."—Proc. 1876, pp. 132, 133; Proc. 1880, p. 35. See also Proc. 1868, pp. 25, 48, 49, as to Side Degrees.

EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS FOR DEGREES.

A man who can neither read nor write is not eligible for the degrees of Masonry. In these days of free schools, one who cannot read his own petition and legibly sign his own name thereto is an unfit subject out of

which to attempt to make a Mason.—Proc. 1875, pp. 34, 91.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS—WRITTEN BALLOTS—BLANKS NOT
COUNTED.

The election of officers of a Lodge must be by ballot on which must appear in a legible manner the name of some member of the Lodge; and all ballots cast at any such election that do not contain the name of some member of the Lodge are blanks, and not votes, and are not to be taken into consideration in determining the result of such election.—Proc. 1876, pp. 129, 130. As to written ballots on inflicting a penalty, see Proc. 1876, pp. 28, 130.

EVIDENCE—CIVIL COURT RECORD—DIVORCE, COMPLAINT,
JUDGMENT.

While there is a General Regulation providing that any one charged with an offense, having been convicted of the same in a court of law, a certified copy of the records of the court in said cause may be admitted as evidence, yet the complaint and judgment in a proceeding for divorce, or the record of proceedings in any civil cause, are not made evidence, by Masonic law, of the truth of the facts in controversy before a Lodge. The Regulation referred to applies only to criminal cases.—Proc. 1889, p. 43. See also Proc. 1884, p. 47.

EVIDENCE—COMMITTEE TO TAKE—PROVINCE OF—POWER
LIMITED.

During the pendency of charges, a committee is appointed, if necessary, to take evidence; not to hear and report their conclusions on such evidence. Where

such committee so reported its conclusions in two reports—a majority report and a minority report—the latter being the conclusion of one member of the committee that the evidence fully sustains the charges, and said minority report was approved, probably too by a viva voce vote, the Grand Lodge held the proceedings erroneous. Although the committee first submitted its report of the evidence heard by them, it was on their “report upon the evidence,” made as above stated, by the direction of the Master, and at a subsequent meeting, that the foregoing action was had. The Lodge can hardly be presumed to have listened attentively to the evidence, when so first reported, and weighed it as discreetly as if the trial had been before it instead of before the committee.—Proc. 1872, pp. 51, 52. Compare Proc. 1886, p. 46; Proc. 1892, p. 23.

EVIDENCE—COPIED INTO THE RECORD—**APPEAL**—LODGE
JUSTIFICATION.

The only justification a Lodge can have on an appeal for the infliction of a penalty is the evidence copied and preserved, because in the absence of evidence copied into the record of the Lodge and transcribed into the appeal, the Grand Lodge must necessarily conclude that no such evidence was given.—Proc. 1890, p. 85; Proc. 1892, p. 68.

EVIDENCE, EX PARTE—**TRIAL**.

The Worshipful Master in the progress of a trial correctly sustained an objection of the accused to the proposed reading of certain ex parte evidence against him. The experience of ages has demonstrated the

propriety of that rule, that every accused shall have an opportunity of meeting his accuser face to face; and the right to subject the witnesses to a cross-examination.—Proc. 1858, p. 74.

EVIDENCE—HEARSAY—TRIAL.

What a deceased brother in his lifetime told several brothers relating to a contract with a brother afterwards on trial before his Lodge cannot be introduced in evidence, unless the accused was present at the time such things were told. The *ex parte* statement of one to the detriment of another, out of the presence and hearing of the latter, is not competent evidence.—Proc. 1888, p. 37. Hearsay evidence, being statements of third parties, made out of the presence of the defendant, ought not to be received by a Lodge.—Proc. 1889, pp. 43, 44. Where stricken out on motion, it was all the accused could ask.—Proc. 1891, p. 72.

EVIDENCE—JUDGMENT OF CIVIL COURT—PLEA OF GUILTY—TRIAL.

A certified copy of the proceedings of a civil court showing the conviction of the defendant on a plea of guilty is admissible in a Masonic trial against the same person for the same offense, and is *prima facie* evidence of his guilt.—Proc. 1874, pp. 83, 84; Proc. 1875, p. 94; Proc. 1898, p. 67.

EVIDENCE—MERE CONFLICT—REVERSAL—APPEAL.

On appeal, the Grand Lodge adopts the familiar rule that the decision of a subordinate Lodge cannot be disturbed where there is a mere conflict in the evi-

dence. The Lodge has had before it all the features of the case, as well as the respective standing and reliability of the witnesses and parties; and when a majority of the Lodge has decided such case, the Grand Lodge will not reverse the decision.—Proc. 1884, p. 58; Proc. 1888, p. 43; Proc. 1891, pp. 52, 55; Proc. 1898, pp. 71, 72.

EVIDENCE—NEWLY DISCOVERED—NAMES OF WITNESSES—NEW TRIAL—APPEAL.

On appeal, the Grand Lodge held that the decision of a Lodge rendered after a full hearing of the evidence should not be set aside because the accused had asked for a new trial for newly discovered evidence, but in his motion therefor had failed to give the names of any witnesses of whom he had learned, and had made no showing in support of the motion beyond the assertion that there was newly discovered evidence, either by verified statement or otherwise.—Proc. 1891, p. 72.

EVIDENCE—NEWLY DISCOVERED—PURCHASER—ATTORNEY—NEW TRIAL—APPEAL.

Where the newly discovered evidence upon which a new trial was asked for was set out to consist of the testimony of a purchaser of an article of personal property of the Lodge from the accused to the fact that such purchaser paid the accused therefor a sum less than the amount the accused was charged in that instance with appropriating to his own use, the Grand Lodge held that as the accused knew the amount collected by him in this transaction and failed to appear at the trial and give his own testimony on the subject,

he is not in the position to claim a new trial in order to introduce the testimony of the purchaser.—Proc. 1896, pp. 78, 79. No good reason being assigned for the failure of the accused to appear in his own defense either in person or by attorney at the time of the trial of the charges against him in the Lodge—the action of the Lodge in refusing to admit an attorney who was not a Mason being right, and the accused thereupon refusing to enter the Lodge in person—the Grand Lodge could see no reason for remanding the case to the Lodge to give him another opportunity to be heard.—Id. pp. 77, 79, 80.

EVIDENCE—NEWLY DISCOVERED—STATEMENT OF

In an application for a new trial on the ground of newly discovered evidence, the statement of what such evidence will be must indicate with reasonable certainty that it would change the finding of the Lodge. If, when given, it would be merely accumulative, and does not negative the material facts as proven and admitted at the former trial, such new trial should not be so granted.—Proc. 1886, pp. 41, 42. See also Proc. 1891, p. 72; Proc. 1894, p. 80.

EVIDENCE—NEW TRIAL—DEPOSITION—DEAD WITNESSES.

Where, upon appeal, a case is remanded for new trial, the accused stands (with reference to the Lodge) as he did after the charges were preferred, before trial. The depositions taken to be used at the last trial can be used in the second trial. Witnesses dead who testified at the former trial cannot, of course, be examined again. You may prove what they testified to on the former trial.—Proc. 1873, pp. 18, 19, 65.

EVIDENCE RECORDED AT FORMER TRIAL NOT ADMISSIBLE.

It was improper, over the objection of the accused, to introduce and read the evidence taken orally in the Lodge at the former trial, and reduced to writing by the Secretary, when all the witnesses (except one dead) might have been again introduced in person and examined before the Lodge, or their testimony taken by a committee, after due notice to the accused and accuser. In this case a new trial should have been a re-examination of such facts as the parties desired to introduce pertinent to the issues. The witnesses should have been examined again either in open Lodge or before a committee appointed for that purpose. No new charge and specifications were necessary. The case should have begun just after the plea of not guilty, and proceeded as if no former trial had taken place.—Proc. 1873, pp. 57, 58; Proc. 1876, pp. 32, 127.

EVIDENCE—RECORDS OF A COURT OF LAW.

Actual records of suits in court, and original papers in such suits, are admissible in evidence in a Masonic trial, if pertinent to the subject, where a certified transcript has not been procured.—Proc. 1884, p. 47. But this applies only to criminal and not to civil proceedings.—Proc. 1889, p. 45.

EVIDENCE TAKEN BY COMMITTEE—ABSENCE OF ACCUSED CURED.

The committee in a given case having “thought best that neither the defendant nor the complaining brother should be present at the time of taking the statement of witnesses to be used in the trial as testi-

mony," the Grand Lodge held that the accused clearly had the right to be present and meet the witnesses face to face, and hear all their statements; but as the committee furnished the accused a statement of the evidence before the trial, and he was permitted to propound questions to the witnesses, that it was not such an irregularity as would justify a reversal of the case.—Proc. 1898, p. 73.

EVIDENCE, TAKEN BY COMMITTEE—NOTICE.

Where a man is upon trial, involving his Masonic rights and his Masonic honor, he should have ample notice, so as to enable him to meet the witnesses against him face to face, and procure counsel to attend the taking of the depositions, if necessary.—Proc. 1889, p. 45.

EVIDENCE—TRANSCRIPT—JUSTICE OF THE PEACE.

In the trial of an accused, on a charge of bastardy, the Master erred in permitting—over the objection of the accused—the introduction of a transcript from the docket of a justice of the peace as part of the proof,—such transcript showing only that a prosecution for bastardy was begun against the defendant, and that before a judicial decision was had the prosecuting witness dismissed the cause and made the usual entry of satisfaction in such cases.—Proc. 1882, p. 69.

EVIDENCE—WITNESSES, NOT NAMED IN CHARGES—APPEAL.

On appeal from the ruling of the Master permitting the prosecution to call and examine some witnesses whose names were not attached to the charges, the Grand Lodge held that the law does not require that

the names of all the witnesses shall be thus given, and that there is no good reason why it should be required; that the witnesses who thus testified were all Master Masons who were present at the trial; that the accused made no claim to have been surprised by their testimony, nor did he show wherein any injustice was done him thereby; that he did not ask for any postponement to enable him to meet their testimony, nor make any showing of any kind that he would be prejudiced by allowing them to testify; and that in his appeal he does not claim that they testified to anything untrue, but seems to rely on the technical objection that their names did not accompany the charges. The judgment of expulsion by the Lodge was affirmed.—Proc. 1891, pp. 71, 72; Proc. 1895, pp. 24, 118.

EVIDENCE, WRITTEN—CANNOT BE USED IN TRIAL OF A DIFFERENT PERSON.

Affidavits used in a trial against another brother cannot be used again in a Masonic trial against a different person. An accused has the right, for the purposes of his own defense, to take the depositions of any witnesses whose statements he may deem necessary for such defense, and if he fails to do this he ought not to complain of his own neglect.—Proc. 1894, p. 80.

EXPULSION—FROM CHAPTER EXPELS FROM LODGE.

An expulsion of a Royal Arch Mason from a Chapter [shall] be considered an expulsion from all the privileges of Masonry.—Proc. 1826, p. 22; Hacker's Rep., p. 179. [Repealed, Proc. 1848, p. 32.]

**EXPULSION, OR SUSPENSION—LODGE OF ENTERED APPRENTICES
—MASTER MASON.**

A Lodge of Entered Apprentices cannot Masonically either expel or suspend a Master Mason.—Proc. 1839, p. 6; Hacker's Rep., p. 326.

EXPULSION BY RESOLUTION.

The action of a Lodge in expelling a member by a simple resolution is grossly unmasonic.—Proc. 1864, p. 77.

EXPULSION, WITHOUT SANCTION OF GRAND LODGE.

The right of expelling members is in the subordinate Lodges.—Proc. 1846, p. 58. See also pp. 8, 57. The subordinate Lodges in this State shall have full power to expel and advertise all members, and others, who come within their jurisdiction.—Id. p. 58.

FEE FOR THE DEGREES—ACCOMPANY PETITION.

The whole amount of fees for entering, passing and raising [shall] be paid down or into the hands of the Secretary, at the time of filing the petition.—Proc. 1828, p. 46; Hacker's Rep., p. 219.

**FEE FOR THE DEGREES—CANDIDATE STOPPED—PART TO BE
REFUNDED.**

Under the law requiring a ballot for each degree, a reasonable part of the fees paid to the Lodge must be refunded to an Entered Apprentice who had been rejected five times in four months upon application for the Fellow Craft's degree.—Proc. 1870, p. 41.

FEE FOR THE DEGREES—DATE OF PETITION.

The law in force when a petition for initiation went in must determine the amount of the fee, notwith-

standing the fact that between that date and the time when the ballot was had the law regulating the fee is changed.—Proc. 1878, pp. 18, 88.

FEE FOR THE DEGREES—RETURN OF PART AS A DONATION
UNLAWFUL—NOTE FOR, UNLAWFUL.

No Lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction has the right to confer the degrees for the minimum fee fixed by the General Regulations, or for the fee fixed in its by-laws, with the understanding that any part of such fee shall be subsequently donated back to the petitioner. Not only would such a course be a violation of law, but any understanding between the Lodge and a petitioner that a portion of the fee would be returned to him, and, in this way his initiation fee be reduced below the price so fixed by law, would be unmasonic, and beneath the dignity that should characterize the proceedings of every Masonic Lodge.—Proc. 1886, p. 73; Proc. 1892, pp. 12, 59; Proc. 1897, pp. 22, 23, 108; Proc. 1898, pp. 12, 78. A promissory note cannot be taken for the fee, or any part thereof.—Id. See also Proc. 1893, p. 25.

FEE FOR THE DEGREES—RETURN OF PART OPTIONAL—
CONTRACT.

Where a candidate, during the ceremony of conferring upon him the second degree, made objection to the proceedings, and said that he did not care to proceed under the circumstances and demanded a return of two-thirds of the fee, which the Lodge refused, the Grand Lodge held that while the Lodge would be wise to let such material go, yet as they were ready and willing to comply with their part of the contract, and

the candidate refused to proceed, the latter only was in fault, and the Lodge was not bound to refund any portion of the fee.—Proc. 1897, pp. 19, 20, 80. But see contra, Proc. 1895, pp. 16, 83.

FEE FOR DEGREES, SURETY FOR—DISCIPLINE, WHO LIABLE TO.

Where the fee for the degrees has not been paid, the Lodge cannot discipline a brother who is surety for it, unless there is proof of fraud. The remedy of the Lodge is against the Master and Secretary for violation of the law.—Proc. 1892, pp. 12, 59.

FIRE-ARMS—REVOLVERS, POINTING IN A THREATENING MANNER.

The Grand Lodge held it to be a remarkable proposition that the pointing of a loaded revolver by one Mason at the body of another Mason in a threatening manner is not an offense against Masonic law. While it is true that such an act may be excusable or justifiable, yet that is a matter of defense.—Proc. 1893, pp. 108, 109, 110.

FRAUD—FACTS—PROOF.

The facts that at one time an accused was fully responsible for his contracts, and while thus responsible certain parties became his securities, and after his failure had his debts to pay, do not prove or indicate fraud on his part.—Proc. 1874, p. 71. But see Proc. 1890, pp. 82, 83.

FUNERAL—CALLED MEETING—RECONSIDERATION.

On the death of a brother who had requested Masonic burial, the Master called the Lodge together to make suitable arrangements therefor. On the fol-

lowing day, at the request of several brethren, the Master again called the Lodge together for the purpose of reconsidering the action of the preceding day; and upon a resolution offered at such second meeting such action was reconsidered and the Lodge thereby refused to bury the deceased brother with Masonic honors. On appeal, the Grand Lodge could see no good reason for disturbing the action of the Lodge, and accordingly confirmed the same.—Proc. 1869, p. 51. But contra, as to business transacted at stated meetings.—Proc. 1858, p. 75; Proc. 1863, p. 39.

FUNERAL—ENTERED APPRENTICES—FELLOW CRAFT.

It is highly unmasonic for any subordinate Lodge in this jurisdiction to admit an Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft to join a funeral procession.—Proc. 1849, p. 55.

FUNERAL—ESCORT, LODGE CANNOT ACT AS.

A Masonic Lodge cannot turn out and act as escort to some other order burying a Mason.—Proc. 1895, pp. 24, 118.

FUNERAL—LODGE, WHEN OPENED—THIRD DEGREE.

A Lodge can be congregated and opened for the public ceremony of the burial of a deceased Master Mason, in a strictly emergent case, upon call of the Worshipful Master or presiding Warden, but everything necessary to constitute a Lodge must be present. The burial of the dead is Masonic work, and cannot be performed while the Lodge is at refreshment, and as none but Master Masons can be permitted to assist at the burial service, consequently the Lodge should be

opened on the third degree during such work.—*Proc.* 1869, p. 74.

FUNERAL—NON-AFFILIATE, BUT ROYAL ARCH MASON TO ATTEND.

In answer to certain questions concerning the right of a dimitted Mason who has refused to affiliate after six months' residence in the jurisdiction of a Lodge, but who is an affiliated Royal Arch Mason or Knight Templar, to attend the funeral of a Master Mason, it was held that neither the Grand nor subordinate Lodge have any knowledge of, or power over, the degrees of Royal Arch Masonry or Christian Knighthood, yet should a Mason be expelled from all the rights and privileges of Ancient Craft Masonry, such expulsion would operate upon his privileges as to attending the funeral [by a Lodge] of persons belonging to the higher degrees of Masonry; and as the Grand Lodge has prohibited members of subordinate Lodges from attending, as Masons, the funerals of non-affiliated Masons, such prohibition must apply to such non-affiliated Masons though they may be in affiliation with a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons or a Commandery of Knights Templar.—*Proc.* 1856, pp. 39, 40.

FUNERAL—OTHER SOCIETIES MAY JOIN IN PROCESSION—HONORARY PALL BEARERS.

Societies other than those that are Masonic may be permitted, or invited by the family of the deceased, to join in the procession at the burial of a Master Mason by his Lodge, such societies being assigned a place in advance of the Lodge; they may appoint pall bearers,

to be known as honorary pall bearers; they may perform their services over the body, but they cannot be permitted to lower it; the active pall bearers must be Masons, and after the Lodge takes charge of the burial, it must be completed without interference or interposition on the part of any other organized society.—Proc. 1897, pp. 27, 28, 82. .

GAMBLING—BETTING—PLAYING CARDS FOR MONEY.

Any kind of gambling or betting is considered unmasonic, [and] such as are guilty of it [shall] be subject to admonition, suspension, and, if no marks of reformation [appear], expulsion.—Proc. 1818, p. 13; Hacker's Rep., p. 31; Proc. 1892, p. 70; Id. p. 106.

GAMBLING—LOTTERY—GIFT ENTERPRISES.

All lottery schemes and gift enterprises are disreputable, immoral, unlawful, and unmasonic, and participation in all such schemes for the purpose of raising funds for Masonic purposes should be discountenanced and prohibited.—Proc. 1879, p. 83.

GOD, AND THE IMMORTALITY OF THE SOUL—GRAND ORIENT OF FRANCE.

In September, 1877, the Grand Orient of France struck from its Constitution the principles of belief in God and the immortality of the soul, and substituted therefor absolute liberty of conscience and the exclusion of no person on account of his belief. Minor acts on the part of this Grand Orient, acts which conflicted with American ideas of jurisdiction and Grand Lodge supremacy, have heretofore severed friendly relations between American Grand Lodges and said Grand Orient. [Proc. 1870, pp. 44-48.] And while we have

been so energetic in resenting the interference of this Grand Orient with a sister jurisdiction, we can do no less in vindication of those great fundamental principles so ruthlessly torn from the foundation of Freemasonry than to express our indignation in plain, forcible and unmistakable terms.—Proc. 1878, pp. 26, 27, 119, 120. Compare Proc. 1882, pp. 101-110.

GOD, DENIAL OF BELIEF IN—MASONRY, EXPRESSED CONTEMPT FOR.

An accused was tried upon a charge of unmasonic conduct, in a number of specifications, among which was one, that he denies the existence of God, and one, that he declared openly that he did not care for Masons or Masonry, or for his own standing in that regard. The trial resulted in his expulsion. In considering the several questions involved, the Grand Lodge held, that if the accused was required to avow a trust in God at the time he was made a Mason, and if he did so in order to become a Mason, he must have done so voluntarily and sincerely; that one who has been made a Mason, upon the express acceptance of all Masonic requirements, cannot become recalcitrant and dispute with the Order of Masonry, and at the same time have the Order retain him as a good and true Mason; that if a man, after being made a Mason, so demeans himself as to become a recognized and pronounced atheist, or manifests himself as an irreligious libertine, in the full sense of the term, he should be dismissed from Masonry for the good of the Order and for the purpose of preserving harmony among well-disposed Masons; and that a Mason who

proclaims an utter disregard for his own respectable standing as such, is guilty of unmasonic conduct.—Proc. 1882, pp. 101-110.

GRAND LODGE—ATTEMPTS TO ANTICIPATE ITS ACTION—CONSPIRACIES.

It is unmasonic, and therefore condemned and disapproved by the Grand Lodge, for brethren in our jurisdiction, with the aid of persons without the jurisdiction, to form secret organizations for the purpose of compelling this Grand Lodge to adopt any particular form of work, controlling its elections or appropriations of its charities or other funds.—Proc. 1861, pp. 74, 75. See also Proc. 1889, pp. 32, 33.

GRAND LODGE—CIRCULARS FORESTALLING JUDGMENT OF.

It is clearly against the principles and teachings of Masonry, where it is desired to carry through the Grand Lodge some special matter in which a Lodge or some member of the Fraternity has some personal interest, financial or otherwise, and in order, if possible, to forestall the judgment of the Grand Lodge, to prepare circulars, and at some convenient season, prior to the meeting of the Grand Lodge, to send such circulars to the several Lodges and prominent members of the Grand Lodge, soliciting their aid and co-operation in carrying through the Grand Lodge such measures as may so be desired. This is emphatically condemned and a stop must be put to it speedily, by trial of such offenders and adequate punishment for the offense.—Proc. 1889, pp. 32, 33. See also Proc. 1861, pp. 74, 75; Proc. 1892, pp. 16, 17, 18, 59, 60; Proc. 1894, p. 67.

**GRAND LODGE—COMMITTEE, REPORT OF, WHEN CONCURRED
IN, THE ACT OF.**

A recommendation of a committee of the Grand Lodge upon a subject regularly referred to it, when concurred in by a vote of the Grand Lodge, is an order of the Grand Lodge, and must be obeyed.—Proc. 1892, pp. 15, 59.

**GRAND LODGE—LOSS, WILL NOT REFUND, SUSTAINED BY MASON
AS CIVIL SURETY FOR ANOTHER.**

The Grand Lodge regarded as “extraordinary” the claim of sureties for refunding amount of loss sustained by reason of signing bonds of a member of their Lodge who was appointed a guardian and became a defaulter for several hundred dollars; and held that this Grand Lodge cannot become responsible for the misfortunes of members who fall by the wayside, and fail to discharge their pecuniary obligations.—Proc. 1897, p. 97.

GRAND LODGE—REVIEW, BILL OF—RESTORATION.

A brother charged with abandoning his wife, addressed a letter to the Lodge declaring that it would be unjust to her and to himself to make public at that time the reasons which had actuated him in separating from her, and that he was unable, from the peculiar circumstances surrounding the case, to make an active defense, and asking the Lodge to delay action until the courts had decided the questions between himself and his wife. He was tried in his absence, found guilty, and indefinitely suspended. He returned and asked for a new trial, after the period allowed for such an application, which was denied him

for that reason. He then presented a petition to the Grand Lodge, in the nature of a bill of review, praying the Grand Lodge to direct the subordinate Lodge to grant him a new trial. The Grand Lodge, finding all the proceedings of the trial Lodge regular, examined a large amount of documentary evidence submitted with the petition, and finding the wife to have been guilty of the most villainous and depraved conduct towards the petitioner, contemplating, in association with her paramour, his murder by poison or by shooting, facts he could not safely have disclosed at the time of the Lodge trial, set aside the penalty fixed by the Lodge, and restored him to the condition of a non-affiliated Mason.—Proc. 1895, pp. 99-102.

GRAND LODGE SOVEREIGNTY.

Each Grand Lodge is, and should be and remain, supreme within its own State; and no other Grand Lodge should interfere with such exclusive privilege, or grant dispensations or charters within another State in which a Grand Lodge is regularly organized.—Proc. 1828, pp. 38, 40; Hacker's Rep., p. 217.

GRAND LODGE—SUBORDINATE LODGES—JURISDICTION.

The jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Indiana extends in every direction to the very limits of the State, and over every member of the Order, and every Lodge within these bounds. And as the Grand Lodge, its officers or its brotherhood, would be guilty of usurpation, and unjustifiable intermeddling with the concerns of others, in attempting to extend that jurisdiction, so is it their duty to resist and repudiate such action on the part of any other Grand Lodge, or of any

of its members. No Master Mason residing without the limits of the State of Indiana has the right to petition this Grand Body for a dispensation. Lodges without the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge have no right to confer the degrees upon any citizen within our territorial limits.—Proc. 1859, pp. 22, 38.

GRAND MASTER, CHARGES AGAINST A WORSHIPFUL MASTER
MUST BE MADE TO AND APPROVED BY.

Charges against a Worshipful Master must be made to the Grand Master and be approved by him,—consequently, judgment as to the formality of the charges is demanded of the Grand Master. He is in the situation of a judge who must determine the sufficiency as in case of a complaint on demurrer, or of an indictment on motion to quash. Therefore for palpable defects he should return such charges with directions to correct them. It would be an imbecile proceeding of a Grand Master to order a trial to be had upon defective charges.—Proc. 1890, pp. 21, 22, 96.

GRAND MASTER—WORSHIPFUL MASTER—CONDUCT, UNMASONIC,
NOT GROWING OUT OF OFFICIAL DUTIES—TRIAL OF, IN
SUBORDINATE LODGES.

1st. It shall be competent for the subordinate Lodge of which the Grand Master is a member, to try and expel or suspend him for any unmasonic conduct not growing out of his official duties; and when expelled or suspended, his office of Grand Master shall be vacated, and the officer next in rank shall fill the office. 2d. Subordinate Lodges shall have power to try and expel or suspend their Master for any unmasonic conduct not growing out of the discharge of his

official duties. When the Master of a Lodge is under trial, the officer next in rank, or some Past Master, to be designated by him, shall preside. When the Master of a Lodge is expelled or suspended, the officer next in rank shall succeed to the station. 3d. The Grand Master and Masters of subordinate Lodges are answerable only to the Grand Lodge for acts growing out of his (their) official duties.—Proc. 1858, pp. 54, 55.

GRAND MASTER—DECISION—CONTEMPT OF, A MASONIC OFFENSE.

Where the Grand Master, in the discharge of his official duties, has decided, upon a given question, that a petitioner is eligible to the degrees of Masonry, and a member of the Lodge for which such decision has been made, endeavors to bring said decision into contempt, such member was properly charged, tried and punished therefor. It was the duty of the accused to yield to the constituted authority of Masonry in the State. Obedience to constituted authority is a Masonic admonition and duty.—Proc. 1884, pp. 60, 61.

GRAND REPRESENTATIVE—COMMISSION, REVOCATION OR
RECALL OF.

It is perfectly competent for any Grand Jurisdiction to revoke or withdraw its commission to its Grand Representative near any other Grand Lodge for non-attendance at the Grand Lodge to which he is accredited, for any certain period, and for any cause it may deem sufficient in obedience to its laws and regulations; but such Grand Lodge has no power to revoke or withdraw a commission which it has not issued. It may make complaint to the Grand Lodge that issued the commission to the Representative, and ask to have

such commission revoked because of the failure of its Representative to actually be present at the meetings of the Grand Lodge to which he is accredited and discharge the duties of his trust, and in that way, in a proper case, the commission might be revoked.—Proc. 1897, pp. 104, 105. And this Grand Lodge declines to recall its commission to a member of a sister Grand Lodge as our Representative to such Grand Lodge who has as such rendered us faithful service for many years, and against whom no complaint can be urged, in order that the Grand Master of such other Grand Lodge may secure the commission for another brother designated by him.—Proc. 1897, pp. 15, 108, 109.

“GREEN GOODS”—COUNTERFEIT MONEY—DEFECTIVE CHARGES.

It is not, per se, immoral and unmasonic conduct to correspond with parties who propose to furnish counterfeit money for circulation, unless the correspondence is shown to be for the express purpose of negotiating for said counterfeit money, with intent to fraudulently put such money into circulation. No such fraudulent intent having been set out, the charge, as such, is not good, and should have been dismissed. A specification averring the deposit of a letter or package with the agent of an express company, addressed to a dealer in such money, and the payment of charges thereon, contains nothing criminal in itself, and should have been dismissed. A specification averring that such dealer—naming him—proposed by circular letters, to sell and deliver by express to those who might desire it counterfeit and spurious money for circulation constitutes no charge against one accused of the

purpose of procuring such money. Neither does a specification that there was received at the office of an express company at the home of the accused a package addressed to him, marked "valuable papers," on which there were considerable charges, to be collected on delivery. Nor does this furnish sufficient ground for a second charge, "that it is unlawful to deal in or handle counterfeit money," particularly as the remaining portion of said charge averred that the agent of said express company returned said package to the sender. The motion to dismiss should have been sustained upon the second charge in full.—Proc. 1872, pp. 52-54.

HOLY BIBLE—EXCLUSION FROM MASONIC ALTARS—GRAND
LODGE OF PERU.

A certain communication or edict, dated June 13, 1897, and signed by the Grand Master of Masons in the Republic of Peru, which orders that on all Masonic altars the Bible shall be removed and replaced by the Constitution of the Order of Freemasonry, and that in their rituals the word "Bible" shall be struck out and the words "the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Peru" be put in its place, having come to the knowledge of the Grand Lodge of Indiana, it was resolved that the Grand Lodge of Peru has ceased to be a Masonic body; and that all communication with said Grand Lodge, its subordinate Lodges and members of its obedience is prohibited until the further order of this Grand Lodge.—Proc. 1898, pp. 7, 8, 114.

HOLY BIBLE—FIRST GREAT LIGHT.

The moral law of Masonry, founded upon the first great light in Masonry (the Holy Bible), is the high-

est moral law known to man, and it is not in the power of any legislative body to so legalize that which is morally wrong as to make it proper or morally right for any Mason to practice the legalized wrong.—Proc. 1859, p. 51. Compare Proc. 1898, pp. 7, 8, 114.

HOLY BIBLE—THREE GREAT LIGHTS.

Upon the question asked the Grand Master by a Christian Church, the corner-stone of which had been laid by him, whether there was any objection to putting in the edifice a stained glass window in which the design used should be the "Three Great Lights of Masonry," the Grand Lodge held, as the Grand Master had answered, that there was no objection, and that, on the contrary, it would be considered as a beautiful expression of respect for the Fraternity, and a recognition of the intimate relationship or nearness of the Church and Masonry.—Proc. 1897, pp. 24, 82.

INJURED PARTY, JUNIOR WARDEN MAY SIGN CHARGES FOR— INJURED PARTY—JUNIOR WARDEN.

Though the name of the injured brother appears in the body of the charges as the person making them, while the charges are signed by the Junior Warden, they may be regarded as having been made by the Junior Warden, who, by signing them, adopts the same and assumes the burden. The name of the brother may be treated as surplusage.—Proc. 1889, pp. 78, 79.

INNOCENCE—PRESUMPTION OF.

A brother under charges is presumed to be innocent until he is proven guilty. He has all the rights

of any other member until his case is heard and determined by the Lodge.—Proc. 1876, pp. 32, 127.

INNOCENCE, PRESUMPTION OF.

Proof enough to raise a suspicion only should not cause a Mason to be expelled. A Mason no doubt should avoid the appearance of evil, but he should never be held guilty of evil by the mere ground of suspicion. The presumption in favor of a Mason's innocence is not to be overcome except by actual proof, either direct or circumstantial, sufficient to convince the judgment of an unbiased mind.—Proc. 1890, p. 85; Proc. 1896, pp. 27, 92; Id. p. 76.

INSTALLATION—LODGES U. D., IMPROPER.

It is improper to install the officers of Lodges working under dispensation.—Proc. 1823, p. 61; Hacker's Rep., p. 123.

INSTALLATION—LODGES U. D.—IMPROPER.

The officers of Lodges working under dispensations should not be installed, either publicly or privately.—Proc. 1844, p. 23; Id. p. 33; Hacker's Rep., p. 405; Id. p. 410.

INSTALLATION—LODGES U. D.—OFFICERS ARE PROXIES OF GRAND MASTER.

Officers of a Lodge under dispensation are merely acting as proxies for the Grand Master until the next sitting of the Grand Body, and are not to be installed. In such a Lodge, officers are not to be installed until they are regularly elected by ballot at a meeting of the Lodge after the dispensation has been returned to the Grand Lodge and a charter received by said subor-

dinate.—Proc. 1859, p. 39. Any Past Master may install the officers of a chartered Lodge, if invited by the Lodge, or Worshipful Master, whether he be a member of that Lodge or not.—Proc. 1859, p. 38.

INSTALLATION—PROXY.

It is improper for subordinate Lodges to install their officers by proxy.—Proc. 1843, p. 38; Hacker's Rep., p. 389. Also Proc. 1878, pp. 22, 88.

INSTALLATION, WHEN, BY WHOM—VIRTUAL [CHAPTER] PAST MASTER HAS NO AUTHORITY.

An installation by a virtual [Chapter] Past Master is not legal; all officers must be installed as often as elected.—Proc. 1892; pp. 13, 59.

INTOXICATING LIQUORS—BEVERAGE—ADMONITION.

The Lodge may appoint some brother to wait upon the offender, admonish him or notify him of the fact that the sale or use of intoxicating liquor as a beverage is a Masonic offense, and a violation of the rules and regulations of our Grand Lodge; or the Master and Wardens may counsel with him against the wrong practice, and admonish him to desist; and if, after this, he still continues, or does not reform, charges may be preferred and the penalty be inflicted upon a finding of guilty.—Proc. 1873, pp. 17, 18, 64. A previous trial upon such a charge is deemed to be sufficient admonition.—Proc. 1874, pp. 74, 78.

INTOXICATING LIQUORS—BOND, SIGNING FOR RETAILER NOT A MASONIC OFFENSE.

Under the existing regulation against the use, manufacture, or sale of intoxicating liquors as a beverage,

it is not unmasonic conduct to sign the bond of one licensed to retail such intoxicating liquors.—Proc. 1886, pp. 45, 46, 47; Id. p. 55.

INTOXICATING LIQUORS—BREWERY—SUPERINTENDENT.

Upon a decision of the Grand Master that a superintendent of a brewery where ale is manufactured, but who has no interest in the concern, is ineligible for the degrees, because his admission would be an infringement upon the spirit and meaning of the law, and he who superintends such an establishment is as guilty of the Masonic offense as the owner; the Committee on Jurisprudence, in a report concurred in by the Grand Lodge, said that they would prefer not to be called upon to defend, nor do they wish to attack, the decision. “How far the laborer who is engaged at his daily toils, or the husbandman who plants and raises hops, barley, corn, rye, etc., is a party to the crime of manufacturing intoxicating drinks, is rather too metaphysical and fine-spun to be distinctly visible to the naked eye.”—Proc. 1873, pp. 19, 65.

INTOXICATING LIQUORS—DRUGGIST SELLING AS SUCH—ADVANCEMENT.

One who received the first and second degrees in a Lodge, trades for a drug store, and, as a part of his business, sells intoxicating liquor, under government license, by the quart, not as a beverage, may legally have the third degree conferred upon him.—Proc. 1896, pp. 28, 92.

INTOXICATING LIQUORS—INTEMPERATE USE OF, UNMASONIC.

The intemperate use of spirits is forbidden by divine law and the rules of morality, and is, therefore, grossly

unmasonic, and Lodges throughout the State should discountenance both by precept and example the use of spirituous liquors as a beverage by Masons.—Proc. 1844, p. 46.

INTOXICATING LIQUORS—MANUFACTURE OR SALE AS A BEVERAGE—ADMONITION.

In 1844 the Grand Lodge declared the intemperate use of spirits to be grossly unmasonic—Proc. 1844, p. 46,—and in 1853, on appeal of one charged therewith from the judgment of indefinite suspension for manufacturing and selling ardent spirits as a beverage, upon a plea of confession and avoidance, that the charges were true but that the Lodge had no right to interfere with the domestic affairs of the accused, the Grand Lodge held the proceedings—which were under a by-law of the Lodge—to be regular and the action of the Lodge correct—Proc. 1853, pp. 22, 23;—and in 1859 the penalty for habitual intoxication, or for the manufacture or sale of spirituous liquors to be used as a beverage, was declared by the Grand Lodge to be, for the first offense, reprimand, and for the second offense, suspension or expulsion.—Proc. 1859, p. 50. This was the substantial complexion of the law on the subject until 1870, when to the provision declaring that “The use of intoxicating liquors as a beverage, or the manufacture or sale of intoxicating liquors to be used as a beverage, is a Masonic offense,” was added the clause: “and if a brother persists therein after being admonished by his Lodge, it is the duty of the Lodge to suspend or expel him.”—Proc. 1870, pp. 60, 61, 112. On appeal from judgment of expulsion against

an accused by a subordinate Lodge upon this law, with said added clause, there was an agreed state of facts: that at the time the charges were preferred and prior thereto the accused was engaged in keeping, maintaining and operating a saloon, and engaged in selling intoxicating liquors as a beverage; that he was not admonished officially by the Lodge, nor by any committee appointed for that purpose prior to preferring charges; that two or three members of the Lodge, who were not officers, had advised with, and admonished him, that keeping a saloon was a Masonic offense. On this state of facts, it was contended by his counsel that before the accused could be charged, tried, found guilty and punished for this as a Masonic offense, he must be officially admonished by his Lodge. On this contention the Grand Lodge held that the said added clause is merely directory; it declares a duty devolving, in a certain contingency; it is directed at and applies to the Lodge rather than the offender. The use, manufacture, or sale of intoxicating liquors as a beverage, is by the first part of this section made a Masonic offense, for which a brother may be tried and punished by his Lodge, or the Lodge in whose jurisdiction he may reside, without being first admonished by such Lodge, just as for any other Masonic offense. The offense is in the use, manufacture or sale, and not in the [disobedience of the] admonition.—Proc. 1889, pp. 40, 41.

INTOXICATING LIQUORS—MANUFACTURE AND SALE—AGENT.

The agent of a brewery, entrusted with the distribution of its product and the collection of its bills, is not

eligible to receive the degrees of Masonry.—Proc. 1892, pp. 15, 59.

INTOXICATING LIQUORS—MANUFACTURE AND SALE OF—HABITUAL INTOXICATION—DEGREES OF MASONRY.

The subordinate Lodges within this jurisdiction are unconditionally prohibited from conferring the several degrees in Symbolic Masonry upon any applicant who is habitually intoxicated, or who makes it his business to manufacture or sell ardent spirits, to be used as a beverage. And any member of a Lodge, or affiliate within its jurisdiction, who is in the practice of habitual intoxication, or engaged in the manufacture or sale of spirituous liquors to be used as a beverage, as a business, shall upon charges being preferred and sustained, for the first offense be reprimanded in open Lodge by the Worshipful Master, and for the second offense be suspended or expelled, as a majority of the members present in their judgment may determine.—Proc. 1859, p. 50.

INTOXICATING LIQUORS—MANUFACTURE AND SALE OF AS A BEVERAGE—JUSTIFICATION SOUGHT.

Where charges were preferred against a brother of manufacturing and selling ardent spirits as a beverage, contrary to the provisions of the by-laws of his Lodge, he was, under the forms of procedure then prevailing, and at a certain stage thereof, called upon for his answer, upon which he fully acknowledged the charges set forth to be true, asserting in his defense, that the Lodge had no right to interfere with his domestic affairs; whereupon, in further pursuance of said prevailing forms of procedure, he was indefinitely sus-

pended from all the benefits and privileges of Masonry. On appeal, the Grand Lodge held that there was no error in the proceedings of the Lodge, and that the action of the Lodge was correct.—Proc. 1853, pp. 22, 23.

INTOXICATING LIQUORS—MANUFACTURE AND SALE AS A BEVERAGE—PROFANITY.

The use of profane language is grossly unmasonic; and highly injurious to the character of Freemasonry; and it is highly unmasonic for any member of the Masonic Fraternity to engage in the manufacture or traffic of ardent spirits for a beverage.—Proc. 1853, p. 57; Proc. 1854, pp. 7, 27, 64, 65.

INTOXICATING LIQUORS—REPRIMAND BY WORSHIPFUL MASTER WITHOUT CHARGE OR TRIAL.

There having been neither presentation of charges or any trial on the subject, the Master has no power to decide a brother guilty of selling intoxicating liquors, and have a summons issued to such brother to appear and submit to reprimand.—Proc. 1893, p. 81.

INTOXICATING LIQUORS—RETAILING—STATE LICENSE—JUSTIFICATION.

The sale of intoxicating liquors is an offense against the moral law and the principles of Masonry; and cannot be justified under the plea that the law of the State confers the right to sell upon one who pays for and procures a license to so sell.—Proc. 1876, pp. 93, 94.

INTOXICATING LIQUORS—WHOLESALE DEALER—INELIGIBLE TO THE DEGREES.

Permission to confer the degrees upon an "Importer and Wholesale Dealer in Wines and Liquors" was refused.—Proc. 1894, p. 9.

JURISDICTION—ADVANCEMENT—PREVIOUS REJECTION.

A Lodge, by a unanimous ballot, has a right to waive its jurisdiction in favor of another Lodge on an application for advancement to another degree, when asked for by the applicant, though previously rejected on application for such advancement in the Lodge so asked for such waiver.—Proc. 1875, pp. 34, 91.

JURISDICTION—ENTERED APPRENTICE—WAIVER.

When a Lodge has conferred the Entered Apprentice degree, it has acquired jurisdiction over the candidate for all the degrees. No other Lodge can afterwards rightfully receive his petition for any of the degrees without the consent and waiver of the first Lodge.—Proc. 1895, pp. 27, 118. See also Proc. 1894, p. 65.

JURISDICTION, FOREIGN, REINSTATEMENT FROM JUDGMENT—
GRAND LODGE.

A Mason expelled or suspended by a subordinate Lodge in a sister jurisdiction, and [who] during the continuance of the sentence moves into our jurisdiction, must apply to the Lodge that has passed the sentence to reinstate him, if within the power of the Lodge, and if not, then to recommend our Grand Lodge to restore. It is not proper for Lodges in one jurisdiction to restore to Masonic standing and fellowship, a Mason who has been expelled or suspended in a sister jurisdiction.—Proc. 1859, p. 39.

JURISDICTION—FOREIGN LODGE—REQUEST OF.

A request of a Lodge in another Grand Jurisdiction to a Lodge in this jurisdiction to confer the third degree upon a Fellow Craft of such foreign jurisdiction

can be complied with without the petition—and its reference—of such Fellow Craft.—Proc. 1873, pp. 17, 64.

JURISDICTION INVASION—ARREST OF CHARTER.

Whenever the Grand Master has satisfactory information that any subordinate Lodge has initiated, passed or raised, or admitted to membership, any individual who resides in the jurisdiction of another Lodge, without having the consent of the Lodge within whose jurisdiction the individual lives, it shall be his imperative duty to arrest the charter or dispensation of the Lodge so offending.—Proc. 1852, p. 68.

JURISDICTION, PENAL—TRIAL, PLACE OF—CONCURRENT.

A Lodge within whose territorial jurisdiction a Masonic offense has been committed has power to entertain, charges thereon against the offender, try him upon such charges, and, on conviction, adjudge the proper punishment therefor, notwithstanding the fact that he may be affiliated with a Lodge in some other territorial jurisdiction. If the offense is so committed in a town or city where two or more Lodges have concurrent territorial jurisdiction, by a Mason so affiliated elsewhere, any one of these has inherent jurisdiction of the offense and over the person committing it; but the Lodge which, under such conditions, first takes cognizance of the case acquires jurisdiction which cannot be ousted by subsequent action of any other subordinate Lodge.—Proc. 1884, pp. 61 et seq., 65. One of such Lodges can waive jurisdiction over a petitioner for degrees, as against all the others.—Proc. 1880, p. 22.

JURISDICTION, PERPETUAL—GRAND LODGE—SOVEREIGNTY.

The broad doctrine of perpetual jurisdiction over rejected petitioners is erroneous, because it assumes to deprive a Grand Body of the power to legislate for itself and prescribe the qualifications of applicants for its benefits and privileges who may have been rejected at some time, possibly years before, in another sovereignty, by the ballot of probably but one person,—thus holding this one man power over them for life, and also taking away from them in effect the opportunity and means that pure religion concedes to all mankind of repentance and amendment, if, perchance, the rejection they suffered was founded upon justice at the time instead of being the result of individual malice, as unfortunately is not infrequently the case. A Grand Lodge should never surrender the sovereign power to legislate for itself upon its own affairs, in its own exclusive territorial jurisdiction; nor should it permit alien legislation to deprive us of the power to recognize the repentance of our fellow-man.—Proc. 1894, pp. 63, 64; Proc. 1895, pp. 12, 13, 139, 140; Proc. 1896, pp. 96, 97.

JURISDICTION, PERSONAL, GEOGRAPHICAL, LODGE ABSOLUTE.

Where one residing in the jurisdiction of one Lodge petitions another Lodge for the degrees and is there rejected, the Lodge within whose jurisdiction his actual residence is can receive his petition at once. Petitioning a Lodge out of jurisdiction is illegal; therefore null and void.—Proc. 1893, pp. 23, 65.

JURISDICTION, PERSONAL AND GEOGRAPHICAL—MAJORITY
VOTE—WAIVER—DEGREES.

On a motion to grant a sister Lodge the right to confer the degrees upon one within the geographical jurisdiction of the Lodge entertaining such proposition, a majority vote in the affirmative is sufficient to carry such motion. There being no special provision for the mode of taking the vote on the question of waiving jurisdiction, or that a unanimous vote shall be required, the question is governed by the same rule applicable to all ordinary questions wherein a majority vote decides.—Proc. 1889, pp. 37, 38.

JURISDICTION—PERSONAL—NEAREST LODGE.

To sanction the practice of Lodges initiating applicants who live nearer some other Lodge would be productive of much evil to the Masonic family. Each subordinate Lodge shall have full power over all those who may wish to become members of this Institution, who shall reside nearest such subordinate Lodge, and no Lodge shall initiate any candidate who may reside nearer some other Lodge, without first notifying said Lodge nearest which the candidate resides, of his petition, and ascertaining of such Lodge whether they have any objection to the petitioner, and if said Lodge objects to the petitioner, it shall be the duty of the Lodge to which he petitions to reject the same.—Proc. 1821, p. 30; Hacker's Rep., p. 82; Proc. 1851, p. 64.

JURISDICTION, PERSONAL—PETITION—ELECTION FOR DEGREES
FIXES.

The Lodge that receives the petition of one seeking to be made a Mason and elects him to receive the de-

grees, holds jurisdiction over him, and no other Lodge can receive his petition without the consent of the Lodge that has acquired such jurisdiction.—Proc. 1896, pp. 28, 92.

JURISDICTION—PERSONAL—TRIAL—MEMBERSHIP.

The judgment of expulsion by a Lodge of which the accused was not a member was reversed by the Grand Lodge, and the case referred to the Lodge of which he was a member, upon the principle, well settled by the Grand Lodge, that a Mason shall be held to answer only to the Lodge of which he is a member.—Proc. 1853, p. 37.

JURISDICTION—PERSONAL—WAIVER OF ONE OF SEVERAL CONCURRENT LODGES SUFFICIENT.

Where there are several Lodges possessing concurrent jurisdiction over material for the degrees of Masonry, the consent of one only of these is sufficient to give jurisdiction to a Lodge located at another place.—Proc. 1880, p. 22.

JURISDICTION—REFUNDING FEE, WAIVER BY.

A Lodge failing to confer all the degrees, and refunding the proportion of the fee for such as it has not conferred, thereby waives jurisdiction over the candidate, who may—on a certificate of the facts—petition a Lodge in whose jurisdiction he resides, without any further consent.—Proc. 1876, pp. 32, 127.

JURISDICTION—REJECTED APPLICANT.

In all cases where an application for initiation into the mysteries of Masonry has been rejected by a subordinate Lodge in the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge,

it shall not be competent for any other subordinate Lodge to receive a petition from such rejected person until after the expiration of twelve months after such rejection, without the consent of the Lodge rejecting the applicant.—Proc. 1857, pp. 63, 64.

JURISDICTION—REJECTED PETITIONER—LIMIT.

It is unmasonic for any Lodge working under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge to initiate any person applying for the same, when it shall be made known to such subordinate Lodge, that the applicant has been rejected by another Lodge, without the consent and approbation of the Lodge by which he was rejected.—Proc. 1824, p. 36; Hacker's Rep., p. 150. In 1857 a limit of twelve months was fixed.—Proc. 1857, p. 63.

JURISDICTION—REJECTION—WAIVER—RETURN OF.

Where a Lodge has waived its jurisdiction, over a petitioner, to another Lodge, which rejects said petitioner, and within a year said petitioner applies to the former Lodge—under whose jurisdiction he has continued to live—said Lodge can elect and confer the degrees upon the applicant. In its waiver in the first instance it released and delivered over to the Lodge in whose favor it made such waiver all control of the reception of the first petition and action thereon; but said Lodge, in the rejection of the petitioner, disclaimed such grant, and restored the applicant to his former position. Jurisdiction cannot be conferred by one subordinate Lodge to another, but may be waived for a specific purpose.—Proc. 1875, p. 82; Proc. 1878, p. 21.

JURISDICTION, RELEASE OF—DEGREES UNCONFERRED, PETITION FOR.

An Entered Apprentice, having removed from another Grand Jurisdiction into that of Indiana, carrying a formal release of jurisdiction over him by the Lodge in which he was initiated, can, on a petition accompanied by such release, be elected to receive the remaining degrees by a Lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction, and receive the said degrees for two-thirds of the amount prescribed by the by-laws of the Lodge so conferring them.—Proc. 1892, pp. 15, 59.

JURISDICTION—REMOVAL—ENTERED APPRENTICES—FELLOW CRAFTS—GRAND LODGE—SUBORDINATE LODGES.

While the Grand Lodge of Indiana, declines to claim for itself and its subordinates any ownership in material absolutely rejected here, after such may have become available to the Lodges of another Grand Jurisdiction, it must with still greater force refuse to recognize the right of any Lodge under the jurisdiction of another Grand Lodge to acquire ownership, for advancement and final membership, of Entered Apprentices and Fellow Crafts, made such in Lodges of our Register, by the simple expression of a willingness on the part of a foreign Lodge to "take them in;" and consequently we can never consent to the enactment of a law for such an unexampled appropriation of what is, in the case of Masons of these grades, legitimate property of the Lodges which made them. In the first case, the Lodge rejecting a petitioner says: "We do not want you and will not receive you." In the latter case, it has accepted and received him, given him the degree he petitioned for, and placed him, in

that capacity, upon its records. If at any subsequent period it may become desirable to secure the services of another Lodge as a proxy to confer upon him the remaining degree or degrees, in case of his change of residence, the mode of procedure to that end is well established and understood.—Proc. 1894, p. 65. See also Proc. 1895, pp. 27, 118.

JURISDICTION—RESIDENCE.

In determining the question of jurisdiction of Lodges there is no difference between Masonic and legal residence. The one is the other.—Proc. 1895, pp. 25, 118. But see *Id.* pp. 97, 98, adhering to doctrine laid down in Proc. 1894, pp. 99-104.

JURISDICTION, TERRITORIAL—CONCURRENT—LINE OF MEASUREMENT.

As between Lodges located in cities, all have concurrent jurisdiction, but as between city Lodges and Lodges outside of cities the jurisdiction extends to a line drawn at equal distances between them, without regard to the boundary line of a city.—Proc. 1876, pp. 22, 83, 84. As to waiver, see Proc. 1880, p. 22.

JURISDICTION—TERRITORIAL—PERSONAL—EXTENT OF— DOUBLE—LODGE.

The personal jurisdiction of a Lodge extends over every one of its members wherever he may be situated. The allegiance of a Mason to his own Lodge is indefeasible, and so long as his membership continues, he is amenable to its laws and subject to its power. Thus, if a Mason resides beyond the jurisdiction of his own Lodge, he is subject to two jurisdictions, namely,

the territorial jurisdiction of the Lodge where he resides, and the personal jurisdiction of his own Lodge. —Proc. 1894, p. 77.

KNOCKS BEGIN IN THE SOUTH—OPENING AND CLOSING LODGE.

In the ceremonies of opening and closing a Lodge, the knocks should begin in the South. It will scarcely be denied that there should be system, uniformity and harmony in every work that can justly be considered as a whole; and these should unquestionably dominate an institution whose earliest lesson has reference to the creation of order out of chaos, and whose teachings, at every subsequent stage, enjoin its promulgation in the beautiful and useful in architecture, in science, in morals, and in religion. What are some of the parallels of order, then, that will support this view? One is, that the course indicated is that employed in the [consecutive] designation of the stations and duties of the principal officers of the Lodge in each of these ceremonies. Another is the succession of these same signals in the old mysteries of the ceremony of circumambulation. Another is, that there is somewhere found, in one of the many beautiful lectures of Masonry, the statement that, for precautionary and useful purposes, King Solomon, during the building of his superb and magnificent Temple, stationed guards "at the South, West, and East gates." And yet another is, that in one of the initial ceremonies of Essenism the postulant was reminded that no great purpose can be accomplished without encountering impediments somewhere, and the lesson was most forcibly impressed upon him when he was caused

to meet [in this succession] "three several obstructions" at these very points of the compass. But, greater than all of these, and yet completely consistent with them, is the sequence maintained in the tradition that recounts the cruel dangers that beset the Master Builder of the Temple, and were resisted by a courage and fortitude that held integrity as of greater moment than life, and made it a victor over death itself. While there is no specific legislation on this subject, and no known decision or ruling of any Grand Master upon it, there is a great deal of law in Freemasonry, that is unwritten; or, at least, should have remained unwritten. This unwritten law is called "usage," or "immemorial usage." On the subject at issue, the rituals of the Craft in part comprise this law. There are many of these that, in cipher form, have been to that extent written. The examination of a number of these has found them all to designate the South as the place where the knocks must begin. Of these rituals, that known as the Webb-Preston work, contained in the Rob Morris Mnemonics, is a law for us superior to any other on the subject under discussion, and that ritual provides that the beginning of these ceremonial signals shall be in the South. In relation to the opening in a degree which will be readily identified, there occurs on page 26, initial columns 5 and 6, a combination which must read: "Then the Junior Warden gives one knock, in which he is followed by the Senior Warden, and then by the Worshipful Master;" and this is followed by prayer and the declaration that the Lodge is opened. All openings and closings are similarly done.—Proc. 1897, pp. 87-90.

LABOR—BUSINESS—WHAT IN LODGES BELOW THE DEGREE OF
MASTER MASON.

All labor or business not specially pertaining to conferring the degrees, and the necessary instructions of Entered Apprentices and Fellow Craft Masons, in Lodges below the degrees of Master Mason, is unmasonic, and highly injurious to the advancement and true interest of Masonry.—Proc. 1842, p. 7; Hacker's Rep., p. 354; also Hacker's Rep. 1840, p. 337; Id. pp. 342, 343.

LANGUAGE—ABUSIVE—UNKIND.

It is a Masonic offense to use unkind and abusive language to a brother Mason. It is a breach of good morals and contrary to the precepts of the Holy Scriptures for one Mason to quarrel at, abuse and maltreat a brother Mason, and in such case the penalty of reprimand is just and appropriate.—Proc. 1889, pp. 78, 79.

LANGUAGE—IMPROPER AND UNMASONIC.

The use of improper and unmasonic language in open Lodge is an offense properly punished by suspension.—Proc. 1892, pp. 68, 69; Proc. 1894, p. 80.

LANGUAGE—UNMASONIC—EXTENUATING CIRCUMSTANCES.

Where unmasonic language was shown to have been used by the accused while laboring under great excitement, and when he believed the character of his wife for chastity and virtue was being wrongfully assailed. The man and Mason who would not defend the character of his wife against unjust charges whenever aspersed, would not deserve the name of man or Mason; and at such a time, and under such circum-

stances, would not be expected to carefully weigh his words, or exhibit a placid manner.—Proc. 1894, pp. 80, 81.

LAWFUL AGE.

No Lodge, subordinate to this Grand Lodge, shall initiate any candidate under the age of twenty-one years; and, upon satisfactory evidence that any subordinate Lodge has violated this rule, it shall be the duty of the Grand Master to arrest the charter of said Lodge till the next meeting of the Grand Lodge.—Proc. 1864, p. 68. See also Proc. 1884, pp. 59, 60, 61; Proc. 1895, pp. 23, 118; Proc. 1897, pp. 26, 82.

LAWFUL AGE—FALSEHOOD AS TO—MEMBER MISREPRESENTING THAT OF PETITIONER.

A member of a Lodge who falsely represents a petitioner to be of lawful age, knowing him not to be so, thereby inducing the committee of investigation to take favorable action, and who appears in the Lodge and remains present while degrees of Masonry are in consequence conferred on such petitioner and candidate, cannot be excused for such conduct; and the penalty of expulsion against one so accused is proper and not too severe. No Mason can lawfully be present at and give his consent to the making of any person a Mason who is of non-age—even though it be his own son. This principle is so well established that it need not be further considered or commented on.—Proc. 1884, pp. 59, 60, 61. See generally, Proc. 1864, p. 68; Proc. 1884, pp. 59, 60, 61; Proc. 1895, pp. 23, 118; Proc. 1897, pp. 26, 82.

LIFE MEMBERSHIP—BY-LAW.

There is no authority in the General Regulations of this Grand Lodge for a system of life membership, and where any member, who has paid a gross sum to that end, under a by-law containing such a provision, is entitled to have such sum credited to his account as payment on yearly dues.—Proc. 1895, pp. 116, 117; Proc. 1896, p. 17; Id. pp. 69, 70,—where such credit is not considered.

LODGE—CHARTER, MUST OBTAIN.

No subordinate Lodge can proceed as a chartered Lodge, until they have obtained a charter from the Grand Lodge, and have been regularly installed [constituted] under said charter, or have special permission from the Grand Master or Grand Lodge.—Proc. 1844, pp. 15, 16; Hacker's Rep., p. 400,—where the last word is changed to "Secretary."

LODGE OF ENTERED APPRENTICES CANNOT DISCIPLINE A
MASTER MASON.

A Lodge of Entered Apprentices cannot Masonically either expel or suspend a Master Mason.—Proc. 1839, p. 6; Hacker's Rep., p. 326.

LODGE MINUTES OF TRIAL—CHARGES—NOTICE—TIME—SUM-
MONS—APPEAL.

The minutes of a Lodge where a brother is to be charged and tried must show that the charge and specifications were duly presented at a regular [stated] meeting and a time fixed for trial, and the minutes must go further when the trial occurs, and show that the accused received a summons to appear at the trial,

and he must also receive a copy of the charges as stated, with the names of the witnesses to be used against him. It is the duty of the Lodge to see that its minutes contain all that was done, and if it fails to do so the presumption is against it.—Proc. 1890, p. 78.

LODGE, NEW—DISPENSATION—JURISDICTION AFFECTED.

No dispensations shall hereafter be granted within this Grand Jurisdiction, without the recommendation of all the subordinate Lodges whose jurisdiction will be affected by the proposed new Lodge; and also a certificate, over the signature of each of the Worshipful Masters recommending the petition, that they have examined the petitioners, and certify that the persons recommended for Worshipful Master and Wardens are competent to govern a Lodge, and administer the ceremonies creditably and intelligibly.—Proc. 1864, p. 96.

LODGE, NEW—RECOMMENDATION OF NEAREST OR NEXT NEAREST LODGE.

While it is the duty of Masonic brethren desiring to form themselves into a Lodge to apply to the nearest place of residence for a recommendation to the Grand Lodge, yet wherever such application is made without obtaining the desired recommendation, the brethren then have a right to make application to the next nearest Lodge, and it is the duty of such Lodge to recommend them to the Grand Lodge, notwithstanding the refusal of the Lodge to which the first application was made, provided they have no other reason for with-

holding such recommendation.—Proc. 1821, p. 18; Hacker's Rep., p. 82.

LODGE, NEW—RECOMMENDATION—REQUEST FOR—PETITIONERS
CANNOT VOTE ON.

Members of a Lodge, according to the Constitution and principles of Freemasonry, can petition the same to recommend them to the Grand Lodge or Grand Officers for a dispensation (but cannot vote on their own petition), and the propriety of granting the same [shall] be left to be judged by the authority granting the same.—Proc. 1821, p. 29; Hacker's Rep., p. 81.

LODGE—REMOVAL—ACTION NECESSARY.

The proposition for the removal of a Lodge from one point to another within its established jurisdiction must be presented at a stated meeting of the Lodge; must then lie over to the next stated meeting; in the meantime all the members, so far as practicable, must be notified of the pendency of the proposition, and the time when it is to be considered. If the proposition, on being put to vote, is carried, then the consent of all the Lodges whose jurisdiction will be affected by such removal must be obtained, before any action will be taken by the Grand Master, or final action by the Grand Lodge.—Proc. 1890, pp. 25, 26, 92, 93; Proc. 1891, p. 58; Proc. 1894, p. 82; Proc. 1895, p. 80; Id. p. 90; Proc. 1897, p. 63. Compare Proc. 1895, pp. 136, 137.

LODGE—REMOVAL—MAJORITY OF ALL MEMBERS.

The question of the change of location of a Lodge is a matter so vital that a literal construction should be

given to the language of the law, and that it should require the assent of a majority of all the members of the Lodge who are in good standing on the books of the Lodge, to change the location.—Proc. 1891, p. 110; Id. p. 112; Proc. 1892, p. 48; Proc. 1894, p. 8; Proc. 1896, p. 63; Proc. 1897, p. 63.

LODGE REMOVAL—MAJORITY PRESENT—WAIVER BY ABSENTEES.

Where a Lodge membership was thirty-one, and there was testimony before the Grand Lodge committee that each member was duly notified of the pendency of the proposition for removal thirty days prior to the meeting at which the vote was to be taken, at which there were only eleven members present, seven of whom voted for and three against the removal, the Grand Lodge held that the absentees waived their rights and should not be considered in this connection. In taking this action, however, consideration was given to the fact that—while asking for a change of location from one town to another, and even from one county to another—no change of jurisdiction was asked, and the distance was only four miles, and that the Grand Lodge—Proc. 1890, pp. 26, 93—had taken such action in a similar case.—Proc. 1895, pp. 136, 137.

LODGE SUSPENDED—STATUS OF MEMBERS—PRIVILEGE TO VISIT.

Where a Lodge has been suspended its members are, during the period of such suspension, Masons in good standing, and are entitled to the privilege of visiting other Lodges.—Proc. 1897, p. 113.

LODGES UNDER DISPENSATION—POWERS AND PRIVILEGES.

A Lodge working under dispensation possesses all the legal rights and privileges granted and conferred by the Grand Lodge upon a Lodge working under charter, except the right to elect officers, or to celebrate, by public processions, the festival of the Saints John.—Proc. 1866, p. 53.

LODGES UNDER DISPENSATION—RECORDS, REQUISITES OF.

The record of Lodges under dispensation—when applying for charters—should disclose the fact that there are seven members of the Lodge present in order to transact any business; and every brother present, whether a member or visitor, should have his name in the record; the record should also disclose the fact that every petition, whether for membership or the degrees, was recommended by two members of the Lodge, by naming the recommenders in the record, as well as the names of the members of the committee to which the same was referred, and that the committee reported and were discharged,—without stating the character of such report.—Proc. 1893, p. 66; Proc. 1896, p. 59; Proc. 1897, pp. 13, 67; Proc. 1898, pp. 52, 53, 55, 56, 62. As to quorum, see Proc. 1872, pp. 46, 47.

MAIM—AFTER INITIATION—PHYSICAL QUALIFICATION.

In our law the term initiation seems to apply only to the investiture of the Entered Apprentice degree; therefore, taking this view of the matter, there seems to be no law now prevailing that would prevent a Lodge from completing its work upon one who had

lost his left arm after initiation, or after he had been passed to the degree of Fellow Craft.—Proc. 1882, pp. 33, 81; Proc. 1896, pp. 27, 92. But for the positive and repeated stand taken by the Grand Lodge against making Masons of persons similarly maimed, see Proc. 1864, pp. 65, 66, 67; Proc. 1868, pp. 17, 23, 34; Proc. 1869, pp. 11, 60; Proc. 1880, p. 23; Proc. 1886, p. 8; Proc. 1888, p. 13; Proc. 1895, pp. 29, 118; Proc. 1898, p. 120.

MAIM—LOSS OF LEFT THUMB—TWO FIRST FINGERS OF RIGHT HAND.

A petition to have degrees conferred on one who has lost the thumb of left hand, may be received by a Lodge.—Proc. 1896, pp. 28, 92. The degrees of Freemasonry cannot be conferred on a man who has lost the two first fingers of his right hand at the third joint.—Proc. 1898, p. 120.

MAIM—RUPTURE—TRUSS.

Where petitioner was in all respects physically a perfect man, but had, from early childhood, continually worn a truss, and it was so necessary to his well-being that, without it, he never stood erect, the Grand Lodge held that it was such an essential part of the individual that it could not interfere with his proper initiation.—Proc. 1884, pp. 17, 93. See also Proc. 1884, pp. 59, 60, 61.

“MASONIC,” OR “MASONS’,” USED AS NAMES FOR BUSINESS PURPOSES.

The name “Masonic,” or “Masons” should not be applied to any company or corporation organized for any business purpose, whether it be ordinary invest-

ment, life or accident insurance, or what you will. We do not, or at least should not, assume our Masonic character for any business purpose, and the name should be by us kept sacredly devoted to the high and noble cause to which we as Free and Accepted Masons apply it.—Proc. 1895, pp. 28, 118. Hereafter it shall be deemed a Masonic offense for any Mason or Masonic organization to use such words or methods to further their business.—Proc. 1897, pp. 86, 87.

MEMBERSHIP—OPERATION OF LAW—NOT LOST BY—CHARGES—
NOTICE.

A member of a Lodge cannot lose his membership, or right to vote, by operation of law merely, but by the decision of the Lodge, upon proper charges and specifications of which the accused member must have notice, and a sufficient time for defense.—Proc. 1861, p. 69.

MEMBERSHIP—PETITIONER FOR NEW LODGE DIMITTED BY
SIGNING.

When members of a subordinate Lodge become petitioners for a new Lodge, and a new Lodge is established by such petitioners, they are considered as having dimitted from their old Lodge, by the act of the formation of such new Lodge, and from the time of the granting of a dispensation for such new Lodge, shall cease to pay dues to such old Lodge[s]: Provided, That in all cases the dues shall be paid by such petitioners, without which they continue to remain members of the old Lodge.—Proc. 1848, p. 30.

MEMBERSHIP—PETITIONING FOR NEW LODGE SEVERS FROM OLD.

A member of a Lodge who signs a petition for a dispensation for a new Lodge, which is granted and the Lodge instituted, by that act severs his relation with the old Lodge. If he pays dues to the new Lodge for a time, and is subsequently suspended for non-payment of such further dues, he is not a member of the old Lodge notwithstanding the fact that he has, during all this time, also paid dues to the old Lodge. A brother cannot be a member of two subordinate Lodges at the same time; and the money so paid by him as dues to the old Lodge should in justice and fair dealing be returned to him.—Proc. 1859, p. 44.

MEMBERSHIP—PETITIONER FOR NEW LODGE—SIGNING DOES NOT DIMIT.

A member of a Lodge who signs a petition for a new Lodge, without having paid his dues up to the date of such signing, but who, after a charter is granted such new Lodge, resumes his membership in and pays dues to his old Lodge from which he still later dimit and then claims membership in the new Lodge, "and was rejected"—meaning, doubtless, that such claim was repudiated—has no remedy. The signing of a petition for a dispensation does not dimit a brother from the Lodge of which he is a member unless he paid up his dues to said Lodge.—Proc. 1862, pp. 23, 24. Compare Proc. 1864, p. 76. See also Proc. 1869, p. 49; Proc. 1878, pp. 18, 21, 88.

MEMBERSHIP—PETITIONER FOR NEW LODGE—SIGNING WHILE TEMPORARY RESIDENT DOES NOT DIMIT—MEMBERSHIP.

Where a brother temporarily residing in the State signed a petition for a Lodge under dispensation, and

even acted as an officer of such Lodge, but returned to his former residence and Lodge more than a year before a charter was granted, but was afterwards suspended by such new Lodge for non-payment of dues, it was held that such brother never became a member of the Lodge, and his suspension was ordered rescinded.—Proc. 1894, p. 9.

MEMBERSHIP, SUSPENSION FROM—EFFECT OF.

Any member suspended for any cause from the privileges of the subordinate Lodge of which he is a member, shall be deprived of all the privileges pertaining to a Mason, in all the Lodges subordinate to this Grand Lodge, until he shall be reinstated to full communion with the Lodge from which he was originally suspended.—Proc. 1842, p. 8; Hacker's Rep., p. 357.

MEMBERSHIP—SUSPENDED LODGE—STATUS OF.

Where a Lodge has been suspended its members are, during the period of such suspension, Masons in good standing, and are entitled to the privilege of visiting other Lodges.—Proc. 1897, p. 113.

MEETING, STATED—EACH A DISTINCT SESSION.

Each and every stated meeting of a subordinate Lodge is a separate and distinct session. No motion to reconsider can be made at a subsequent meeting.—Proc. 1863, p. 39. See also Proc. 1858, p. 75; Proc. 1895, pp. 24, 118.

MINISTERS OF THE GOSPEL—CLERGYMEN—PREACHERS— FEES—GRAND LODGE DUES.

While subordinate Lodges may, in their discretion, adopt rules or by-laws authorizing admission to mem-

bership, or the conferring of the degrees of Masonry upon ministers of the gospel, without charge, they must still be holden to the Grand Lodge for the regular dues for all such initiations or memberships, as in all other cases.—Proc. 1859, p. 37. A clergyman must pay the full amount of the fee as prescribed for all others.—Proc. 1892, pp. 12, 59.

MISREPRESENTATION—SURETY, PROCURING TO BECOME.

Where a Master Mason wrongfully induces another, by misrepresentation or circumvention, to become a surety, to his ultimate injury and damage, he should be severely dealt with by his Lodge. Even expulsion in such a case is not too severe. The rule would be different, if the surety was free with his favors and was not misled, or in any way imposed upon. But where a Master Mason leads his fellow and brother into a contract that cripples or injures him financially, and thereby takes advantage of him by actual misrepresentation of facts, he should suffer the penalty—the Masonic penalty—commensurate with the nature of the wrong.—Proc. 1890, pp. 82, 83. See Proc. 1874, p. 71.

NAME—ASSUMED, EXPELLED UNDER—REAL, RESTORED IN.

A member who had received the degrees under an assumed name, and was tried and expelled for the imposition practiced, long afterwards under his real name applied for restoration. The committee in the case reported unfavorable, and a ballot was ordered, but the action postponed until the next stated meeting, when he was restored by a majority vote. On appeal, the Grand Lodge held that there was nothing informal

in the proceedings, unless in the postponement of the ballot, and that was to a stated meeting, when it was the privilege and duty of every member to be present. The brother had confessed his fault, and for ten years had suffered the punishment inflicted upon him. It certainly was competent for the Lodge to restore him.—Proc. 1876, p. 90.

NEW TRIAL—APPEAL—PROSECUTING WITNESS.

The prosecuting witness in a Masonic trial is entitled to ask for a new trial, and to appeal to the Grand Lodge from a decision by the Lodge refusing to grant such new trial.—Proc. 1893, pp. 81, 82.

NEW TRIAL—EVIDENCE—DEPOSITIONS—PROOF OF FORMER TESTIMONY OF DECEASED WITNESSES—APPEAL.

Where, upon appeal, a case is remanded for a new trial, the accused stands (with reference to the Lodge) as he did after the charges were preferred, before trial. The depositions taken to be used at the last trial can be used in the second trial. Witnesses dead who testified at the former trial cannot, of course, be examined again, but proof may be introduced as to what they testified to on the former trial.—Proc. 1873, pp. 18, 19, 65.

NEW TRIAL—EVIDENCE REDUCED TO WRITING BY SECRETARY AT FORMER TRIAL NOT ADMISSIBLE—ERROR—APPEAL.

It was improper, over the objection of the accused, to introduce and read the evidence taken orally in the Lodge at the former trial, and reduced to writing by the Secretary, when all the witnesses (except one dead) might have been again introduced in person and ex-

amined before the Lodge, or their testimony taken by a committee, after due notice to the accused and accuser. A new trial should be a re-examination of such facts as the parties desire to introduce pertinent to the issues. No new charges and specifications are necessary; but a new trial, if granted, should begin after the entry of the plea of not guilty, and proceed as if no former trial had taken place.—Proc. 1873, pp. 57, 58; Proc. 1876, pp. 32, 127.

NEW TRIAL—LODGE MAY GRANT.

Until an appeal is taken to the Grand Lodge, a subordinate Lodge has exclusive control of the case, and for good cause shown may grant a new trial against whom sentence of suspension or expulsion has been pronounced.—Proc. 1874, p. 90.

NEW TRIAL—NEWLY DISCOVERED EVIDENCE—APPEAL.

Where the newly discovered evidence upon which a new trial was asked for was set out to consist of the testimony of the purchaser as to what he had paid the accused for an article of personal property purchased by him of said accused charged to have been appropriated by him, the Grand Lodge held the application for such new trial insufficient, as the accused knew the amount so collected by him, and failed to appear at the trial and give his own testimony on that point.—Proc. 1896, pp. 78, 79.

NEW TRIAL—NEWLY DISCOVERED EVIDENCE—SHOULD BE SUCH AS WOULD CHANGE THE FINDING.

In an application for a new trial on the ground of newly discovered evidence, the statement of what such evidence will be must indicate, with reasonable cer-

tainty, that it would change the finding of the Lodge. If when given it would be merely cumulative, and does not negative the material facts proven and admitted at the former trial, such new trial should not be so granted.—Proc. 1896, pp. 41, 42. See also Proc. 1891, p. 72; Proc. 1894, p. 80.

NEW TRIAL—SENTENCE REMOVED BY.

The granting of a new trial by the Lodge removes the sentence of suspension, and places the brother in precisely the same condition he was in after charges were preferred against him and before the trial was had.—Proc. 1876, pp. 32, 127.

NON-AFFILIATION—DEPRIVATION OF RIGHTS.

No Master Mason who, for a period of six months, shall reside in the vicinity of a subordinate Lodge, and shall neglect to affiliate himself therewith, shall be permitted to visit any Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, be entitled to Masonic burial, or receive relief from the charity fund of the Order, or allowed to assist at any public ceremonies or processions of the Fraternity.—Proc. 1853, pp. 40, 41; Proc. 1854, pp. 25, 26. But this shall not affect any Master Mason, not affiliating, who shall regularly pay to the Secretary of the Lodge under the jurisdiction of which he may reside, the annual dues paid by members of said Lodge.—Proc. 1854, p. 67. [All that follows the words "Grand Lodge," in the sentence first above produced, was repealed and the following words substituted: "and that the subordinate Lodges within this Grand Jurisdiction be left free to take such action in regard to Masonic burial, and confer-

ring acts of charity upon non-affiliating Masons as they in their judgment may determine; also, to admit the same into processions, or not, at their pleasure.”] —Proc. 1860, p. 106.

NON-AGE—PETITION—BALLOT—FULL AGE.

A Lodge may receive the petition of one not yet twenty-one, who will arrive at such age before the petition can be voted on.—Proc. 1895, pp. 23, 118. Compare Proc. 1897, pp. 26, 82.

NON-AGE, PETITION, BALLOT—LAWFUL AGE, CONFERRING DEGREES.

A Lodge can receive the petition of a candidate one month and four days before he is twenty-one years of age; one month later ballot on his case, and, if elected, call a special meeting four days later and initiate him on his twenty-first birthday; but under no circumstances can the first degree be conferred before the candidate is of full age.—Proc. 1897, pp. 26, 82. [Chairman of Committee on Jurisprudence dissenting.] Compare Proc. 1895, pp. 23, 118.

NOTICE—CHARGES—NAMES OF WITNESSES—WAIVER—TRIAL—APPEAL.

On appeal, the transcript must show the service of a true and complete copy of the charges and specifications, with the names of the witnesses attached. A subsequent and separate certificate of the Secretary, that the charges and specifications served did contain the names of witnesses comes too late, and appears before the Grand Lodge as additional testimony which should have been presented at the trial, and cannot be

considered on appeal. Had the accused appeared in person, or by counsel of his own choosing, and failed to make his objection upon this point, his rights would have been waived, but in his absence the Lodge must take cognizance of its own action, either as a body or by its officers, and is responsible for errors and omissions.—Proc. 1872, pp. 43, 44; Proc. 1890, p. 78. As to requirement of names of witnesses, see Proc. 1874, p. 80; Proc. 1877, p. 80; Proc. 1880, p. 57; Proc. 1886, p. 33; Proc. 1890, p. 78; Proc. 1894, p. 77.

NOTICE—CHARGES—TRIAL.

The proceedings in the trial and expulsion of a Master Mason who has not been previously furnished with a copy of the charges preferred against him, or notified of the time and place of trial, are irregular and should be set aside.—Proc. 1848, p. 52. Where nothing to the contrary appears on record, the inference is that the accused could have been found, and the necessary service could have been had.—Id., Proc. p. 52.

NOTICE—SERVICE—ACKNOWLEDGMENT—CHARGES—WAIVER— APPEAL.

Charges are read in open Lodge, and the accused, being present, acknowledged service. At the time of trial the accused by his attorney asked that the case be dismissed because the accused had not been served with a written copy of the charge, which motion the Worshipful Master overruled on the ground that the accused had acknowledged service, as shown by the minutes. This ruling of the Master was, on appeal,

held not good by the Grand Lodge, which then decided that it is incumbent on a Lodge in all matters of charges to furnish the accused with a true copy of the charges.—Proc. 1886, pp. 34, 35, 36. Compare Proc. 1891, p. 53.

NOTICE—TRIAL—CHARGES—WAIVER—APPEAL.

Where the transcript shows that the accused did not appear, it was incumbent upon the Lodge to show by plain and undoubted testimony not only that a true copy of the charges was served upon the accused, but that he was also notified of the time set for trial, and that such notice was given at least ten days before the time fixed. Had the party appeared and entered upon the trial without making this objection, the same as in the case of the accuracy of the charges, he would have waived his rights therein and could not now avail himself of them, but failing to appear the Lodge must, in this case, also be bound by its own omissions, and all such apparent omissions must inure to the benefit of the accused.—Proc. 1872, p. 44; Proc. 1894, pp. 77, 78.

NOTICE—TRIAL—WAIVER—PLEAS—BALLOTS.

Where charges were preferred at a stated meeting, and, at the same meeting, the accused—being present and called—pleaded guilty to one charge for non-payment of dues, and not guilty to another, for a different offense, whereupon a trial was had, in which the record does not show that he took any part, or that anyone appeared for him, or that he retired from the Lodge while the ballots as to his guilt or innocence or for fixing his punishment were being taken, and upon

which when the ballot was spread, it was so spread upon his guilt or innocence of the charges; the Grand Lodge declared the proceedings irregular: (1) For want of ten days' notice under an existing Rule,—the appearance of the brother and his pleas of guilty and not guilty not curing this defective notice. The record shows that it was at a regular communication when the charges were read, and his presence at such a time was in no wise remarkable. Nor was it remarkable that being called upon to answer to said charges he should reply as the facts known to him would warrant. But this ten days' previous notice is such a plain provision of the law, prepared expressly for the benefit of an accused brother, that if by any means any other course is pursued by the Lodge, the reasons therefor must fully appear upon the record. Any consent of the accused to waive this right must so appear, and the absence of the evidence of such consent is not proof that it was, but rather that it was not, given. (2) The ballot, being spread at one time upon both the charges, might do the accused much harm, in governing the amount of penalty thereafter to be affixed, since, having plead guilty to one, the ballot must be in the affirmative, and if so found guilty of both charges the penalty should in justice be greater than if only guilty on one.—Proc. 1872, pp. 47, 48; Id. pp. 48, 49. As to such ballot, see also Proc. 1898, pp. 67, 68, 70, 71, 75, 76. The ballot must first be taken on the question of guilt, and then upon the penalty to be affixed. It is a universally approved rule in Masonic jurisprudence that a brother

must first be declared guilty before his penalty is fixed. Id. p. 49. As to notice, Id. p. 51; Proc. 1874, pp. 75, 76; Proc. 1877, p. 80; Proc. 1888, p. 38; Proc. 1890, p. 78; Proc. 1891, p. 53; Proc. 1894, pp. 77, 78; Proc. 1897, pp. 73, 74, 75.

NOTICE—CHARGES—WITNESSES NOT NAMED MAY TESTIFY—
APPEAL.

On appeal from the ruling of the Master permitting the prosecution to call and examine some witnesses whose names were not attached to the charges, the Grand Lodge held that the law does not require that the names of all the witnesses shall be thus given, and that there is no good reason why it should be required; that the witnesses who thus testified were all Master Masons who were present at the trial; that the accused made no claim to have been surprised by their testimony, nor did he show wherein any injustice was done him thereby; that he did not ask for any postponement to enable him to meet their testimony, nor make any showing of any kind that he would be prejudiced by allowing them to testify; and that in his appeal he does not claim that they testified to anything untrue, but seems to rely on the technical objection that their names did not accompany the charges. The judgment of expulsion by the Lodge was affirmed.—Proc. 1891, pp. 71, 72; Proc. 1895, pp. 24, 118.

OBJECTION TO ADVANCEMENT—REASON GIVEN, SUFFICIENCY
OF—LODGE MAY DETERMINE.

A brother making an objection to the advancement of a candidate, is not obliged to give his reasons for the objection, but when he does give his reasons they be-

come the property of the Lodge, and the Lodge may adjudge them as being captious and insufficient.—Proc. 1884, p. 55.

OBJECTION AFTER ELECTION—RECORD OF, HAS FORCE OF NEGATIVE BALLOT—REASONS BEFORE ARE PROPERTY OF THE LODGE.

An objection made by a member to the Master before the initiation of a candidate and so reported and recorded must stand as a negative ballot, unless reasons are given by the member making it before the objection is so recorded. If reasons are, however, given, before such objection is recorded, they become the property of the Lodge, and it may in its wisdom judge as to the validity of the objection. The right to make such objection is vested only in a member of the Lodge, though should any other Mason make known an objection founded upon good reasons, the Master is bound to give it consideration.—Proc. 1897, pp. 28, 82. See also Proc. 1895, p. 113; Proc. 1896, pp. 27, 92.

OBJECTION TO INITIATION IS A REJECTION.

An objection made by a member of a Lodge to the initiation of an elected candidate is a rejection of the applicant, the same as a black ball would have rejected him in the first place.—Proc. 1876, pp. 33, 127.

OBJECTION TO INITIATION—WITHDRAWAL AFTER RECORD.

Where, after the election of a petitioner, a member of the Lodge made a private objection to the Worshipful Master against the conferring of the degrees, which objection the Master announced at a subsequent

stated meeting, and the Secretary made a record of the same, and shortly afterwards the brother who had objected notified the Worshipful Master that he withdrew his objection, when it was contended that the withdrawal of the objection leaves the candidate elected and entitled to receive the degrees as if no objection had been made; the Grand Lodge held that the withdrawal of an objection by a brother making it does not change the status of the applicant, and he is rejected the same as if a black ball had been cast against him in the first instance. If further desirous of receiving the degrees, such person can proceed, in the same Lodge, as if he had never before petitioned for them.—Proc. 1895, p. 113; Proc. 1896, pp. 27, 92; Proc. 1897, pp. 28, 82.

OBJECTION, BY MEMBER.

A Mason not a member of the Lodge cannot prevent an elected candidate from receiving the degrees therein; but his objection should be considered and investigated by the Lodge, and if deemed sufficient any member of the Lodge may object, and the Master should arrest the conferring of the degree.—Proc. 1875, pp. 92, 93.

OFFICE—MASTER—ELIGIBILITY, WARDEN.

The Ancient Charges and long-established Masonic usage require a brother to have been elected and installed and serve as Warden of a legally constituted Lodge before being eligible to election as Worshipful Master.—Proc. 1866, p. 53. See Proc. 1867, pp. 17,

18, 41, 42. "Or been appointed and served as such in a Lodge under dispensation."—Proc. 1869, pp. 63, 74.

OFFICE—RIGHT TO HOLD PENDING CHARGES.

The fact that charges of unmasonic conduct are filed against a brother does not prevent his holding office, or [affect] his standing in his Lodge, before conviction.—Proc. 1894, p. 8.

ORDERS OF WORSHIPFUL MASTER—DISOBEDIENCE.

A brother may be charged, tried and expelled for wilful disobedience of the orders of the Worshipful Master while presiding over the Lodge.—Proc. 1892, pp. 65, 66.

PARLIAMENTARY LAW—CALLING THE ROLL.

Calling for the ayes and nays, and recording names of members, and how they vote, is improper in Lodge proceedings.—Proc. 1876, pp. 31, 127.

PAST MASTER, CANNOT PRESIDE BY AUTHORITY OF THIS TITLE —BY-LAW.

A Past Master cannot preside in the absence of the Worshipful Master and Wardens, and a by-law attempting to confer such authority is in conflict with the laws and usages of Masonry. There is no authority for anyone to assemble the Craft but the Worshipful Master, or Senior or Junior Warden [excepting always the Grand Master or his Special Deputy].—Proc. 1895, p. 91.

PAST MASTER, DEGREE OF—INSTALLATION OF WORSHIPFUL
MASTER—RECEIVED IN A CHAPTER.

The conference of the degree of Past Master in a regularly constituted Chapter of Royal Arch Masons is sufficient to allow a newly elected Master to be installed.—Proc. 1893, pp. 24, 65.

PAST MASTER, DEGREE OF—WORSHIPFUL MASTER OF LODGE
U. D.

The Worshipful Master of a Lodge under dispensation does not need the degree of Past Master.—Proc. 1895, pp. 23, 118.

PAST MASTER, WHO IS—MAY INSTALL.

A Master of a Lodge by appointment—as under dispensation—is not entitled to the Past Master's degree by virtue of said appointment, but is only entitled to receive it by virtue of his election to the station of Worshipful Master by the votes of the members of a chartered Lodge.—Proc. 1859, p. 39. Any Past Master may install the officers of a chartered Lodge, if invited by the Lodge or Worshipful Master, whether he be a member of that Lodge or not.—Proc. 1859, p. 38.

PAST MASTER, WHO SO RECOGNIZED.

Officers and members of a Lodge of Master Masons do not and cannot recognize a Mason as a Past Master who has not been regularly elected, installed and served as Master of a legally constituted Lodge of Master Masons; and the powers and privileges granted by ancient usage to those who are Past Masters by virtue of election and service should never be extended to

Masons called Past Masters in other branches of the Masonic Order.—Proc. 1866, p. 53.

PENALTY—DEFINITE AND CERTAIN, MUST BE.

A Lodge cannot make a finding and affix a penalty of suspension for twenty-five years against an accused, with a proviso that if at any time during that period the accused shall make restitution to the person he is charged with having wronged, he shall stand reinstated.—Proc. 1893, p. 83.

PENALTY, EXCESSIVE—MISDEMEANOR.

The severest penalty known to Masonry should not be inflicted on a brother for a mere misdemeanor.—Proc. 1898, p. 73.

PENALTY—GRAND LODGE IS SOVEREIGN OVER.

Over the penalty adjudged by a subordinate Lodge the Grand Lodge has sovereign jurisdiction, and can set aside and change or modify such penalty.—Proc. 1892, pp. 72, 93, 106. The Grand Lodge has supreme authority over all causes appealed to it, and can either increase or diminish the penalty as it sees fit.—Proc. 1893, p. 78.

PENALTY—LODGE TO DETERMINE.

It is the chartered right of every Lodge in this jurisdiction, after hearing the evidence, to inflict such penalty as in its judgment the nature of the offense may demand.—Proc. 1872, p. 81.

PENALTY—PUNISHMENT, GRADE OF—TIE VOTE.

In balloting on the penalty, after an accused has been found guilty, should a tie vote occur on any

grade of punishment, the Master has no right to order a second ballot on the same question, but must order the ballot on the next lowest grade of punishment. The former course would prejudice the rights and interests of the accused, should such second ballot on the same question result in the affirmative.—Proc. 1872, pp. 64, 65; Id. p. 85; Proc. 1874, p. 68; Proc. 1879, p. 50; Proc. 1891, p. 53; Proc. 1898, p. 72.

PENALTY—QUESTION OF GUILT—TIE VOTE.

Upon the question of guilt or innocence of an accused party, a tie vote is an acquittal, and all subsequent ballots on the same question are illegal and void.—Proc. 1874, pp. 68, 78, 82; Proc. 1876, p. 90. See also Proc. 1872, pp. 64, 65, 85; Proc. 1879, p. 50; Proc. 1898, p. 72.

PENALTY—WHAT REMOVES.

After the infliction of a punishment prescribed by the Lodge, in its nature temporary and limited, when that limit expired the offending brother was immediately remitted to all his rights and privileges as a Mason and member of his Lodge. To shut the door of the Lodge against a brother who has paid the forfeit of his offense, by patiently submitting to the punishment prescribed, is to punish him twice for the same, with aggravated marks of mortification and disgrace.—Proc. 1822, pp. 39, 40; Hacker's Rep., p. 99.

PETITION, LIE OVER FOUR WEEKS—STATED MEETING.

The regulation which requires that a petition must be received and balloted upon at a stated meeting, and

that it must lie over four weeks, cannot be legally evaded.—Proc. 1892, pp. 12, 59. No Lodge has the right to deviate from, or power to change, this rule under any circumstances whatever.—Proc. 1895, pp. 91, 92; Proc. 1897, pp. 28, 82.

PETITION—ON FILE, REJECTED MUST REMAIN.

A petition which has been acted upon by the Lodge by rejection is the property of the Lodge, and cannot again be presented. A rejected applicant can proceed only by a new petition.—Proc. 1892, pp. 11, 59.

PETITION—RENEWAL—BY-LAW—REFUSAL TO RECEIVE.

Each Lodge has the right to adopt a by-law, for its own private regulation, requiring anyone who may have been rejected to wait six months, one year, or any other length of time before presenting his petition again. So also may a majority of the members present refuse to entertain a petition at any time.—Proc. 1872, p. 81; Proc. 1892, pp. 11, 59; Proc. 1893, pp. 23, 65; Proc. 1895, pp. 25, 118.

PETITION—WITHDRAWAL OF.

After a petition for initiation or membership is received by a subordinate Lodge, it shall not be withdrawn without a ballot, unless application to withdraw be made before the committee to which it has been referred report upon it, and at a stated meeting; and then only for good cause shown and by a vote of three-fourths of the members present.—Proc. 1849, p. 50.

PETITIONER—JURISDICTION CONCURRENT WHEN RESIDENCE IS
ON LINE.

Territorial jurisdiction being determined by straight lines, if the candidate should happen to reside exactly equi-distant from two or more Lodges, their jurisdiction would be concurrent.—Proc. 1894, p. 8.

PETITIONER—JURISDICTION—LODGES—WAIVER.

The power to grant permits to confer degrees on persons residing within our jurisdiction by Lodges within the jurisdiction of other Grand Lodges, is not among the numerated powers or duties of the Grand Master. The usage which has obtained and been sanctioned by the Grand Lodge of Indiana is, that the jurisdiction of each Lodge extends equi-distant with the neighboring Lodges. The right of one Lodge to confer degrees upon persons residing within the jurisdiction of another, should first be had. This rule may be safely extended to Lodges beyond our jurisdiction by Lodges within our jurisdiction. The powers of all our Grand Lodges are delegated powers, and those which are not delegated are inherent in the subordinate Lodges.—Proc. 1856, p. 54.

PETITIONER, MAY BE LIMITED AS TO RENEWAL—BY-LAW.

The Lodge may, in its by-laws, fix a limit, before the expiration of which a rejected petitioner shall not present a new petition. In absence of such a by-law, a rejected applicant may present a new petition at any time.—Proc. 1892, pp. 11, 59; Proc. 1872, p. 81; Proc. 1893, pp. 23, 65.

PETITIONERS—RESIDENCE, SIX MONTHS—VIGILANT INVESTIGATION.

Lodges should not confer the degrees upon sojourners, or persons having a temporary residence in the jurisdiction of the Lodge to which application is made, but should require a residence of at least six months; and in such cases the committee to whom the petition is referred should be vigilant in investigating the moral character and standing of the applicant, and, if deemed necessary, should correspond with the Lodge in whose jurisdiction the applicant last resided.—Proc. 1859, p. 39.

PHYSICAL QUALIFICATIONS.

When the physical disability of the candidate is not of such a character as to prevent him from being taught in the mysteries of the art, his admission will not be a violation of the ancient landmarks.—Proc. 1849, p. 51.

PROFANITY.

The use of profane language is grossly unmasonic, and highly injurious to the character of Freemasonry.—Proc. 1853, p. 57; Proc. 1854, p. 7.

PROFICIENCY—EXAMINATION IN OPEN LODGE.

Every applicant for a higher degree shall, before being balloted for, for such advancement, be examined in open Lodge, and be thus found qualified by a knowledge of, at least, the work lecture of the degree or degrees by him then possessed.—Proc. 1854, p. 56. The words: "Or by a standing or select committee appointed for that purpose," were afterwards inserted after the words "in open Lodge."—Proc. 1858, p. 69.

PROFICIENCY, SUITABLE.

Masonry is a progressive science, and it is necessary to a perfect and complete understanding of its principles that no degree shall be conferred until the candidate understands what he has already received.—Proc. 1819, p. 11; Hacker's Rep., p. 37; Proc. 1895, pp. 23, 118.

PROMISSORY NOTE—DUES, FEES—LOAN OF LODGE FUNDS.

It is highly improper and unmasonic for any subaltern Lodge to take notes from members for Lodge dues, or notes for initiation fees; and it is improper for Lodges to loan their funds to individuals.—Proc. 1843, p. 21; Hacker's Rep., p. 376,—where the word "subaltern" is changed to "subordinate."

PROPERTY OF LODGES—GRAND LODGE CANNOT INTERFERE WITH.

This Grand Lodge has no power to interfere with or encumber the property of any subordinate Lodge in good standing.—Proc. 1862, p. 46.

QUORUM—BUSINESS—TRIAL, VOID WITH LESS THAN SEVEN MEMBERS.

On charges preferred, the time of trial was fixed for a given date; the accused not appearing, and evidence not being at hand, the Junior Warden asked for further time, and the cause was continued to a date five weeks later; there were but six officers and no additional members present at the first meeting; and at the second meeting, excepting the accused, there were but four, including officers, present, making only five in all. The Lodge met and opened, and upon a plea

of guilty to one of the specifications a vote was taken and the accused was declared guilty, and afterwards expelled by a unanimous vote. Upon these facts the Grand Lodge held that no Lodge is competent to transact business without at least seven members. It requires seven members to constitute a Lodge. A charter cannot be granted to less than that number, nor surrendered as long as seven members vote against it, and it follows that no business, such as passing the ballot for any purpose, can be transacted without the presence of at least seven members. Hence any action taken in this cause, when less than a constitutional number were present, was unconstitutional and void.—Proc. 1872, pp. 46, 47; Proc. 1893, p. 66. No Lodge can legally work, at any time, with less than seven members present.—Id. p. 81.

REINSTATEMENT, EXPELLED MASON.

The subject of reinstating an expelled Mason belongs exclusively to the Lodge which inflicted the penalty.—Proc. 1840 [no original extant]; Hacker's Rep., pp. 336, 337; Proc. 1854, p. 64.

RELIEF—CHARITY—AID AND ASSISTANCE—REIMBURSEMENT— LODGE—GRAND LODGE—FOREIGN JURISDICTION.

Upon the proposition of another Grand Jurisdiction that "it is the duty of the Lodge to take care of its own members in distress wherever they may be; and that in case of its inability to do so, this duty devolves upon the Grand Lodge from which it holds its charter," the Grand Lodge of Indiana totally but fraternally dissented from any such proposition, and declined to take any steps toward an interjurisdictional

enactment tending to effect such an understanding or arrangement, and earnestly adhered to the doctrine it has at all times contended for and held, that a Mason in distress is entitled to aid and assistance from the Fraternity, wherever he may be at the time of his need, and that, as a matter of law, his Lodge is not bound to make any restitution, though it may always do so at its own option.—Proc. 1896, pp. 95, 96; Proc. 1897, p. 109; Proc. 1873, pp. 75, 76. See also Proc. 1868, p. 47; Proc. 1869, p. 65; Proc. 1880, p. 119; Proc. 1890, pp. 15, 95; Proc. 1891, pp. 12, 109; Proc. 1892, pp. 53, 54; Proc. 1895, pp. 23, 24, 118; Id. p. 95; Proc. 1896, p. 84.

RELIEF—CHARITY—INDIVIDUAL DUTY—WIDOWS AND ORPHANS.

Where relief has been extended by the Lodge where they reside to members of another Lodge, their widows and orphans, the latter Lodge is under no obligation cognizable by the Grand Lodge to refund the amount unless the expenditure was authorized by it. The duty to extend Masonic relief pertains primarily to the Mason individually and personally, rather than to the members of a Lodge collectively. When the Lodges undertake the dispensation of Masonic charity they do so, doubtless, as a matter of convenience to the members. There is no limitation upon the obligation to render assistance which limits the duty to give it or the right to ask it to members of one's own Lodge.—Proc. 1895, pp. 24, 118; Proc. 1895, p. 138. See also Proc. 1868, p. 47; Proc. 1880, p. 119; Proc. 1890, pp. 15, 95; Proc. 1891, pp. 12, 109; Proc. 1892, pp. 53, 54.

RELIEF—UNWORTHY CONDUCT.

Masons are bound to aid and assist distressed worthy brothers, their widows and orphans; but an unworthy act of a brother severs the tie that bound us, and in such cases he has no legal claim upon us.—Proc. 1859, p. 38.

REPRIMAND, PENALTY AFTER—APPEAL—STAY OF PROCEEDINGS.

Under existing legislation, a sentence of reprimand does not destroy the rights of membership, but a refusal to submit may be followed by charges and trial for disobedience. Where an appeal is taken from the sentence, before the reprimand is delivered, further proceedings are thereby stayed until the Grand Lodge passes upon such appeal.—Proc. 1876, pp. 31, 32, 127.

RESIDENCE—CITIZENSHIP—DEGREES—ELIGIBILITY—PETITION.

The theory of the universality of Freemasonry seems to have originally excluded from the ancient landmarks and old Constitutions all restrictions or limitations as to nationality or residence, so that for many years these elements of qualification were never in any manner considered. Expediency subsequently recommended the requisite of residence, and Grand Lodges incorporated regulations in their Constitutions requiring a residence certain as to time, and within the limits of jurisdiction prescribed for their several subordinate Lodges. These regulations were enacted solely for the purpose of enabling the brethren of a Lodge to determine the moral qualifications of a peti-

tioner by the opportunity thereby furnished of observing his daily life and conduct. There never has been, and probably never can be, any uniform rule as to the term of such residence, as each Grand Lodge has fixed, or will hereafter establish, its length for itself. Neither is there now, nor will there probably ever be, any established uniformity of legislation between a State with reference to citizenship and a Grand Lodge on the subject of membership, since a union between Masonry and State government is quite as unlikely to occur as the union of Church and State, so carefully prohibited by the Federal and State Constitutions. Since the term of residence required as a prerequisite to petition for the degrees or membership in a Lodge of Masons may, therefore, by possibility be less than the residence required by law as a prerequisite to citizenship, it is plain that citizenship could not always be necessary as a qualification for Masonic privileges or membership. The meaning of the word residence is therefore not necessarily the same in both cases. On the contrary, it is different when having reference to Masonry, and means rather an abode, or home, without regard to certain rights and franchises that grow out of its prescribed existence under the laws of the States. Masonry, being universal, knows no nationality. In its organization in various countries its jurisdiction, however, becomes territorial; so that to enable a native of one country to obtain the degrees in another, a residence, the length of which can only be prescribed by a Grand Lodge regulation, becomes necessary. This term of residence may be like

or unlike the residence required to gain citizenship and civil rights in such country. Masonic residence having been so acquired, an alien can apply for and receive the degrees, and become a member of the Lodge without ever having been naturalized as a citizen of the country in which the Lodge is located. There is nothing in the Constitution or General Regulations of the Grand Lodge of Indiana that requires that a petitioner for the degrees shall be a citizen of the United States, or that, if an alien, he shall have declared his intention to become so.—Proc. 1894, pp. 99-104. Followed in Proc. 1895, p. 98.

RESIGN—RIGHT OF OFFICER OF A LODGE.

It was error for a Lodge to reject the application of an officer elected and installed for a definite period to secede [resign his office], holding that he could not, consistent with Masonic principles, secede until that period had expired.—Proc. 1828, p. 45; Hacker's Rep., p. 219. See, as to interpretation of words in brackets, Proc. 1828, p. 29; Hacker's Rep., p. 213.

RESIGN OR DIMIT—WORSHIPFUL MASTER.

The Master of a subordinate Lodge has the right to resign or dimit. Such right may be classed amongst what would be called in other associations inherent and unalienable rights; it is as well established by Masonic law as the right to die or be deposed, rights which it is apprehended no one will deny.—Proc. 1856, p. 50.

RESIGNATION OF MASTER—PENDING CHARGES FALL—PERSONAL
LIABILITY.

In the absence of all legislation on the subject, a Worshipful Master can resign his office, and this is true as to any officer of the Lodge; and charges at such time pending against such Master fall with the acceptance of his resignation. But such resignation cannot prevent the Lodge from preferring charges, and trying him for unmasonic conduct, without the intervention of the Grand Master, because, while within the jurisdiction of the Lodge, he cannot escape punishment as an individual Mason by such resignation; nor can he escape it by dimitting while within the jurisdictional limits of the Lodge.—Proc. 1876, pp. 25, 26, 128.

RESTORATION—BALLOT ON REPORT OF COMMITTEE—APPEAL
BY COMMITTEEMAN.

Where a petition for restoration was properly presented and reported on, the Master decided that the report was all the action necessary, and that no ballot need be taken. One of the committee making such report appealed from this decision. The Grand Lodge held that a proposition to restore should be governed by the same rules as original petitions for initiation or membership, and that a ballot should have been taken. It being urged that such member of the committee was not himself personally aggrieved, and could not, therefore, appeal from said decision, the Grand Lodge further held that by his appointment and service, and his signature to said report, he became a party to the record, and consequently inter-

ested in the action upon and disposition of said report. Having an undoubted right to see that correct action was had thereon, that it might not be disturbed in the future, he was a proper party to the appeal.—Proc. 1872, pp. 49, 50.

RESTORATION—ENTERED APPRENTICE—FELLOW CRAFT.

In the absence of existing legislation upon the subject, an Entered Apprentice or a Fellow Craft who has been suspended or expelled can only obtain relief from the sentence by the unanimous vote of the Lodge on petition duly filed, referred and laid over.—Proc. 1895, pp. 29, 118.

RESTORATION—EXPELLED MASONS—GRAND LODGE.

The Grand Lodge shall retain the exclusive power to restore expelled Masons, upon such representation of the subordinate Lodge as may be satisfactory.—Proc. 1838, p. 12. See also Proc. 1848, pp. 29, 46; Proc. 1849, p. 55; Proc. 1851, pp. 61, 65; Proc. 1852, p. 65; Proc. 1854, p. 64; Proc. 1856, p. 22.

RESTORATION OF EXPELLED MASONS—LODGE RECOMMENDATION.

The Grand Lodge is the only tribunal that can restore expelled Masons, and that only on the recommendation of the Lodge that passed the sentence; the Secretary should certify the recommendation under the seal of the Lodge.—Proc. 1859, p. 38.

RESTORATION—MEMBERSHIP—UNAFFILIATION—VOTE.

In construction of Sections 125 (since formally amended, Proc. 1897, pp. 110, 111) and 127 of the General Regulations, the Grand Lodge held that, upon petition for restoration under said sections, a

unanimous vote restores to membership, a majority vote to the condition of an unaffiliated Mason. The brother thus restored to the condition of an unaffiliated Mason may petition the Lodge for membership at any time, under the same restrictions as any other unaffiliated Mason.—Proc. 1892, pp. 12, 59; Proc. 1895, pp. 27, 118; Proc. 1896, pp. 27, 92.

RESTORATION—NON-AFFILIATED MASON—MEMBERSHIP.

The payment of all dues for which a brother may stand expelled, or a majority vote of all the members present of the Lodge inflicting the penalty of suspension or expulsion, for any other cause, shall restore the brother to all the rights and privileges of a non-affiliated Mason, but it shall require a unanimous ballot to restore to membership in the Lodge any brother so suspended or expelled for any cause whatever.—Proc. 1869, p. 62.

RESTORATION—SUSPENDED MASON.

In the absence of a regulation of the Grand or subordinate Lodge on the subject, a majority vote of the Lodge may restore a suspended member; but by an existing section of the by-laws of the Grand Lodge, such action does not restore him to membership in the Lodge.—Proc. 1851, p. 75.

RESTORATION—UNAFFILIATED MASON, TO CONDITION OF— PETITION FOR MEMBERSHIP.

A brother who has been restored by his Lodge to the condition of an unaffiliated Mason may petition the Lodge for membership, under the same restric-

tions as any other unaffiliated Mason.—Proc. 1892, pp. 12, 59; Proc. 1896, pp. 27, 92.

RITUAL—ESOTERIC WORK—WRITING.

Writing legibly and intelligibly the esoteric work and lectures of Masonry is an unmasonic offense which justifies the punishment of indefinite suspension.—Proc. 1873, p. 59. See also Proc. 1897, p. 88.

RITUAL—USE OF CIPHER TEXTS—OPEN EMPLOYMENT OF BOOKS.

The employment of cipher texts of the work, and the open use of books while the degrees are being conferred, is an unlawful and disreputable proceeding, and the righteous condemnation by the Grand Master of such unworthy practices should be heeded throughout this Grand Jurisdiction, so that it may not become necessary to make them the subject of future penal legislation.—Proc. 1897, p. 88. See also Proc. 1873, p. 59.

RITUALISTIC COMPETENCY—ELIGIBILITY TO OFFICE.

No Master Mason, member of a subordinate Lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction, shall be eligible to the office of Junior Warden, or Senior Warden, or Worshipful Master, unless he is competent to confer the three first degrees in Masonry, together with the lectures appertaining to the same.—Proc. 1860, p. 100.

ROYAL ARCH MASON—EXPULSION FROM CHAPTER, HOW CARRIED INTO LODGE.

After expulsion of a Royal Arch Mason by his Chapter, for a breach of the moral code or of the rules and spirit of Ancient Craft Masonry, the Chapter or

any member thereof may prefer a complaint for the same offense against the accused before a subordinate Lodge having jurisdiction of the matter, which Lodge shall receive and commit to writing, if not already committed to writing, all testimony which may be offered, *de novo*, on either side, and in case such delinquent is, therefore, found guilty and suspended or expelled, he shall have the right of appeal; or if he be acquitted or discharged, any Chapter or any Royal Arch Mason shall also have the right of appeal. Such appeal shall be tried by the Grand Lodge of Indiana on the merits; and for that purpose all the papers and evidence connected with the case shall be duly forwarded by the Secretary of the subordinate Lodge to the Grand Secretary.—Proc. 1848, pp. 55, 56.

SAINT JOHN'S DAY—SUNDAY.

Where the anniversary of St. John the Evangelist [or St. John the Baptist] falls on Sunday, such anniversary cannot be celebrated on that day; nor can a public installation be held on the anniversary of the former so falling on Sunday.—Proc. 1897, pp. 27, 82.

SEAL, LODGE.

All communications between the subordinate Lodges of this State should be attested by the seals of the Lodges respectively sending such communications, and if a Lodge sending any communication to any other Lodge have no regular seal, then that fact should be certified, and an ink scrawl attached.—Proc. 1850, p. 64.

SICK BENEFITS—BY-LAW.

It is not consistent with the general plan of Masonry for a Lodge to adopt a by-law providing for the payment of stated sums as sick benefits.—Proc. 1895, pp. 27, 118. See also Proc. 1884, pp. 18, 93.

SICK, REFUSING TO SIT UP WITH—BY-LAW.

A Lodge is very lenient in fixing the punishment of a member charged and found guilty of refusing to sit up with a sick brother at a reprimand only. It is one of the first great principles of Masonry to take care of our sick and distressed brethren.—Proc. 1880, p. 115. But a by-law providing for the assessment of a specific fine against a brother for failing so to attend in person or by an acceptable substitute is wholly unmasonic and void.—Proc. 1898, p. 59.

SIDE DEGREES—LODGE ROOM.

While it is true that the so-called “side degrees” are no part of Masonry, and in no way connected therewith, still, as they are only made use of by Masons in their individual capacity for the purposes of a little harmless amusement, to which none but Masons are admitted, there appears nothing especially reprehensible in conferring the same in the Lodge room, provided, that they be not carried to such extremes as to bring Masonry into disrepute, and provided further, that said degrees be not recognized by any Lodge in its Lodge capacity as any part of or in any way connected with Masonry.—Proc. 1868, pp. 25, 48, 49. See also, as to Order of Eastern Star, Proc. 1876, pp. 132, 133.

SLANDER, A MASONIC OFFENSE.

A Mason may be charged and tried for slandering a brother Mason, and, on conviction, should be suspended from all the rights and privileges of Masonry.—Proc. 1852, p. 54. A Mason speaking evil of and making false assertions concerning Master Masons, may properly be found guilty and be indefinitely suspended.—Proc. 1874, p. 82. To make a slanderous statement is unmasonic conduct, and may justly be punished by expulsion.—Proc. 1876, p. 79. Expulsion for uttering slanderous and scandalous words, in a given case, was considered too severe for the offense, and was, on appeal, commuted by remanding the appellant to the position of a non-affiliated Mason.—Proc. 1876, p. 81. The circulation of slanderous stories involving the character of the daughter of a deceased Master Mason is clearly unmasonic.—Proc. 1878, pp. 19, 88. So, also, is slandering and traducing the character of a Master Mason's wife.—Proc. 1893, pp. 81, 82; Proc. 1894, pp. 78, 79.

SPECIFICATIONS, ADDITIONAL—AGREEMENT.

At a certain day set for the trial of charges—in effect one charge of adultery—which was continued at the request of the accused to a later date—said accused being present both in person and by counsel—it was agreed by both parties that five specifications be added to the original charges. At the trial the accused appeared with a different person for counsel, and through him he moved to dismiss the specifications so agreed upon by the former attorney in the case, for the reason that they did not contain sufficient facts to

constitute a cause of action, which motion the Master overruled. The Grand Lodge held that the Master's ruling was right, not only because these additional specifications cured certain defects in the original charge, made it more explicit and certain, fully apprised him of what he was to be put on trial for, and made the issue better for him; but also because his objection should have been made to their filing; and that, having been filed with his consent, they became a part of the original, and made the complaint, so called, good.—Proc. 1872, pp. 55, 56.

SPECIFICATIONS—EXPLICIT—SUFFICIENCY.

Specifications must be sufficiently explicit for the accused to know what particular offense is intended, that he may prepare his defense. One for "violating his obligation," without even hinting at when, where, or wherein he had violated it, and another for "defrauding a brother Mason," without alluding to who the brother Mason was, or when, where, or how he defrauded him, are so vague and indefinite that trial upon them would make it possible for a Lodge to commit the greatest injustice by springing upon an accused matter that he is not and cannot be prepared to meet.—Proc. 1872, pp. 59, 60; Id. p. 60.

SPECIFICATIONS—MOTION TO STRIKE OUT—TO MAKE MORE
DEFINITE—WAIVER—DISMISSAL—APPEAL.

Instead of moving to strike out a specification, a motion should be made to make it more definite. If no charge and specification is on file, an accused would be entitled to a dismissal, but when even a defective

charge and specifications is on file, he can lawfully ask for and is entitled to an amended and perfect charge and specification; but if he refuses to make a motion that he ought to make before his Lodge, and goes to trial and is expelled, even on a defective specification, it is too late to ask in the Grand Lodge the favors he did not ask in his Lodge.—Proc. 1890, pp. 80, 81; Proc. 1891, p. 68; Id. p. 70; Proc. 1892, p. 66; Proc. 1893, p. 85. As to amendment, Id. p. 79.

SPECIFICATIONS—SUFFICIENCY—MASTER MAY DETERMINE.

Under a charge of unmasonic conduct, supported by three different specifications, the Master having overruled the third specification and the accused having plead guilty to the first, a ballot was ordered upon the question of punishment under such plea, which resulted in a sentence of definite suspension. On appeal, the Grand Lodge held the proceedings regular, and the ruling of the Master correct.—Proc. 1869, p. 52. See also Proc. 1878, pp. 20, 21.

SPECIFICATION, WITHDRAWN—NEW TRIAL.

Where a specification has been withdrawn at a first trial, in a new trial no evidence can be introduced on it, and no vote taken as to the guilt or innocence of the accused on that specification.—Proc. 1873, p. 58.

STANDING, GOOD—DISCIPLINE ALONE DESTROYS.

Though a brother may have failed to pay his dues, or may have committed any Masonic offense, he is nevertheless entitled to all the rights and privileges

belonging to any member of his Lodge in good standing, until suspended or expelled.—Proc. 1896, pp. 27, 92; Id. p. 76.

STANDING, GOOD—MASON RAISED REGARDLESS OF OBJECTION.

Though a Worshipful Master disregarded the objections of members of his Lodge, and, in violation of law and authority, conferred the third degree on a Fellow Craft, the party so raised is in good standing and a member of that Lodge. He was made in a just and lawfully constituted Lodge of Master Masons, and his standing is not affected by any violation of law on the part of the Worshipful Master.—Proc. 1882, pp. 34, 81.

STANDING, GOOD—MEMBERS OF SUSPENDED LODGE—PRIVILEGE TO VISIT.

Where a Lodge has been suspended, its members are, during the period of such suspension, Masons in good standing, and are entitled to the privilege of visiting other Lodges.—Proc. 1897, p. 113.

STANDING, GOOD—PENDING CHARGES—PRESUMPTION OF INNOCENCE.

The mere fact that charges have been preferred against a brother does not deprive him of his standing or rights and privileges as a Mason. He is presumed to be innocent until he shall be found guilty on trial of such charges.—Proc. 1896, p. 76; Id. pp. 27, 92; Proc. 1890, p. 85. See also, as to last sentence, Proc. 1876, pp. 33, 127.

STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS—LODGES, NOT APPLICABLE TO.

Masonic Lodges are in honor bound to deal fairly with one another, and if they do not, Masonic law will compel them to right the wrong; nor will the lapse of time relieve them from this obligation to make reparation and deal fairly.—Proc. 1891, p. 102; Proc. 1892, p. 69.

STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS—OBLIVION, RAKING UP ASHES OF.

In a case where one was suspended for using improper and unmasonic language in open Lodge, while the Grand Lodge virtually sustained the judgment, yet, in view of the fact that such language was so used more than two years before the charges were preferred, held that while there was no statute of limitations that would bar the preferring or prosecution of charges of this character, the practice of raking up from the ashes of oblivion charges as ancient as these ought not to be commended.—Proc. 1892, pp. 68, 69. There is no Masonic law adopting the civil statute of limitations.—Proc. 1897, pp. 27, 82.

SUMMONS—LAPSE OF.

When a summons has been issued, requiring the party to appear at the next stated meeting, and no quorum is present at the time designated, and consequently no meeting is held, the trial must be set for another time, and a new summons must be issued.—Proc. 1889, p. 86.

SUNDAY—LAYING OF CORNER-STONE.

The Grand Master properly refused the request of a Lodge for permission to perform the ceremonies of

laying the corner-stone of a synagogue on the Sabbath day, commonly called Sunday.—Proc. 1875, pp. 34, 91; Proc. 1894, p. 8. As to holding a Masonic trial on Sunday, see Proc. 1879, p. 22.

SUSPENDED MASON—CHARGES—TRIAL.

The Grand Lodge concurred in a report of the Committee on Jurisprudence, comprising the following questions and answers:

1. Can charges be legally preferred against a Master Mason who is under sentence of indefinite suspension without first restoring him?

Answer.—No charges can be lawfully preferred against a Master Mason while under sentence of suspension.

2. If so, can the suspended Mason be present at the trial, or could he be tried only in open Lodge on the third degree?

Answer.—A trial cannot lawfully take place except in open Lodge.

3. Is a suspended Mason beyond the control of the Lodge in all particulars until he is fully restored to all the rights and privileges of Masonry?

Answer.—A suspended Mason can claim no protection from, nor is he subject to the control of, a Lodge.—Proc. 1869, p. 74.

A brother who has been suspended for non-payment of dues may be tried and expelled for grave unmasonic conduct.—Proc. 1879, p. 21. But see *Id.* p. 72. Compare Proc. 1893, pp. 85, 86.

SUSPENSION—DUES, NONE DURING.

Upon the restoration of a suspended brother to membership, it is not competent for the Lodge to exact dues from the brother during the term of such suspension. Upon such restoration payment of all arrearages may be demanded, or all such dues may be remitted, at the discretion of the Lodge.—Proc. 1859, p. 37. See also Proc. 1863, p. 48.

SUSPENSION—EXPULSION—VOTE OF LODGE EFFECTS—ACCUSED CANNOT RE-ENTER LODGE.

The vote of the Lodge suspends [or expels] a brother, and he should not be permitted to return to the Lodge room after the vote has been announced.—Proc. 1892, pp. 14, 59.

SUSPENSION—PRIVILEGES.

A member suspended for any cause from the privilege of a subordinate Lodge shall be deprived of all the privileges pertaining to a Mason in all the Lodges subordinate to this Grand Lodge, until he shall be reinstated to a full communion with the Lodge from which he was originally suspended.—Proc. 1841, p. 8; Hacker's Rep., p. 357.

TECHNICALITIES MAY CONTROL—RULES OF COURTS OF LAW.

While it is proper to overlook technical objections and irregularities, and endeavor to arrive at the justice and merits of the case, and reach a correct conclusion, free from complications and technical difficulties, yet this conclusion must be reached under the forms of Masonic law, and we should not consent to see this law, and especially our General Regulations,

squarely violated and disregarded, in order to avoid the reversal of a case. The rules governing Masonic trials require that, generally speaking, they should be governed by the same rules that apply to a trial in a court of justice, except that technicalities and strict, rigid rules that might work a hardship in a particular case, are to be disregarded; but where there is a reason for these rules to apply, they should, generally speaking, be exercised.—Proc. 1897, pp. 76, 77.

TIME—PRESENTATION FOR DEGREES—ADVANCEMENT AFTER
BEING STOPPED.

An Entered Apprentice who was initiated fifteen years ago, and stopped by a black ball on ballot for advancement, under the old law which required a ballot for each degree, is eligible to receive the [remaining] degrees, if he has not been permanently stopped by a trial and judgment, as now prescribed; but that he has made suitable proficiency, as a qualification for advancement, must be shown by an examination or voucher, as required by law. Having been elected to receive one degree only, the ballot must be passed for the remaining degrees.—Proc. 1892, pp. 11, 59.

TIME—PRESENTATION FOR DEGREES—BY-LAW—LIMIT.

Since the General Regulations do not fix a period in which an elected petitioner must present himself to receive the degrees, the Grand Lodge has ruled that the subordinate Lodge may, by a by-law, limit the time in which he must present himself or forfeit his election. If the Lodge has not availed itself of this right, the petitioner may lawfully demand at any time

that the degrees be conferred on him, no objection having been made. The Lodge should undoubtedly have notice of the desire of the elected petitioner to receive the degrees.—Proc. 1892, pp. 11, 59; Proc. 1893, pp. 23, 65; Proc. 1895, pp. 25, 118. But as to removal from the State for a year or more, see ruling, Proc. 1894, p. 9.

TRANSCRIPT—APPEAL—IRREGULARITIES—REQUIREMENTS—
FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES—EVIDENCE—WAIVER.

Where charges were preferred at a called meeting, and, on appeal, the transcript failed to show that they were even read in open Lodge and spread of record, but such transcript did show that all the evidence in the cause was taken before the charges were presented and filed—which irregularities were not assigned as errors, on appeal—the Grand Lodge held that it was of little moment, on such a question, that the accused failed to make these illegal proceedings a ground of complaint in his appeal; because these requirements are so fundamental as to render their waiver doubtful even if made in express terms, and which certainly could not be effective otherwise.—Proc. 1897, p. 78.

TREASURER—LODGE FUNDS.

The Treasurer of a Masonic Lodge has no right to use the Lodge funds or mix them with his own funds; and if he refuses to pay the same over to his successor on the expiration of his term of office, he is guilty of a grave offense. This is the general rule in regard to all persons acting in a fiduciary capacity, and the safety of trust funds demands its strict enforcement.—Proc. 1893, p. 85.

**TRIAL—ABSENCE OF ACCUSED—PLEA OF GUILTY BY COUNSEL
APPOINTED.**

Counsel appointed by the Worshipful Master to defend an accused who is not present at the trial has no power to enter a plea of guilty for such accused and absent brother. The Lodge has no right to punish such brother because some other brother has entered such a plea for him without authority so to do. There would be more justice in punishing the brother who so pleaded guilty.—Proc. 1893, pp. 80, 81.

TRIAL—APPEAL—NOTICE—RECORD—FRAUD.

On appeal to the Grand Lodge, where the record of the trial Lodge clearly shows that notice was served on the accused ten days prior to the date of the trial, the Grand Lodge declined to investigate as to when the notice was in fact served upon said accused. The record, in the absence of fraud, should be considered on appeal as conclusive on this question. If the accused desired to question the time of the service of the notice, he should have appeared in his Lodge at the time fixed for the trial and presented his objections thereto, or show good reason for his failure to do so.—Proc. 1896, p. 78.

**TRIAL—APPEARANCE—MOTION TO DISMISS CHARGES—WAIVER
OF INFORMALITIES.**

Where an accused appears in his own Lodge, at a trial upon charges preferred by a committee of another Lodge, for a Masonic offense committed while within the jurisdiction of his own Lodge, and moves to dismiss the said charges for the several reasons,—

“that said charges do not conform to the laws and regulations of Masonry;” “that they fail to state that the persons signing them are Master Masons, or affiliated Masons;” “that such other Lodge has no authority to prefer any charges against a member of his said Lodge;” and “that such other Lodge has no Masonic authority to appoint a committee to prefer charges,” the Grand Lodge—while ruling against him on all these points—held that the appellant, having filed such motion, entered a full appearance, and from that time the trial Lodge had jurisdiction of the defendant, and he thereby waived any irregularity in the proceedings by which the trial Lodge obtained said charges.—Proc. 1898, pp. 69. 70.

TRIAL—APPEARANCE—WAIVER.

Where an accused appears and enters upon trial without objecting to the filing of the charges and specifications at other than a stated meeting; or that notice of time of trial was not served, nor the names of witnesses set forth; or that no notice was given of time, place, and person before whom written evidence would be taken; he is held, on appeal, to have waived such objections.—Proc. 1871, pp. 37, 38; Id. p. 40; Proc. 1872, pp. 43, 44.

TRIAL—ARGUMENT AFTER ACCUSED HAS RETIRED FROM THE LODGE.

When a case has been closed, and the accused and the accuser, with their counsel, have retired, the Lodge occupies the position of a jury or a bench of judges, to whom the case has been finally submitted. They are

deliberating upon their final judgment in the case, and each member has the right to whatever light and knowledge his brethren may possess. They, however, would not be justified in considering any facts not properly and legitimately presented during the trial.—Proc. 1892, pp. 71, 72, 93, 106.

[The report of which the above is in part a digest was not concurred in by the Grand Lodge, doubtless on point of punishment, and not on question of law.]

TRIAL—CHARGES—EVIDENCE.

It is not within the province of a Lodge to try a brother upon one specific charge, and then find him guilty and inflict a penalty for another and different offense.—Proc. 1886, p. 43.

TRIAL—CHARGES, JOINT—SEPARATE HEARING—WAIVER, IMPROPER ON DEFAULT.

Where two members were jointly charged with un-masonic conduct in getting intoxicated, and, on their failure to appear at the time of trial, the Master appointed a brother of the Lodge to act as their attorney, who, when some brethren expressed the opinion that the proceedings ought to be single and separate as to each, stated that he would waive all such illegalities and irregularities and would put them upon trial, which then proceeded and resulted in their expulsion, the Grand Lodge held, on appeal, that each man or Mason, under Masonic usage and law, must, when guilty thereof, be charged with intoxication separately and tried separately; and that the attorney so appointed for the defense should have acted like he would have

been required to act if the brethren had been there giving him instructions, and should not have made their expulsion easy and certain.—Proc. 1882, pp. 96, 97, 98.

TRIAL—CHARGES, JOINT—SEPARATE VERDICTS.

In a given case where nineteen Masons were included in the same complaint for non-payment of dues, and the whole party were included in one ballot and thereby indefinitely suspended, the Grand Lodge held that Masonic membership is of too sacred a nature to be so lightly dealt with, and that each and every case should be disposed of separately and upon its own merits.—Proc. 1878, p. 70.

**TRIAL—CHARGES—UNWRITTEN—INDEFINITE POSTPONEMENT—
NOTICE OF SUBSEQUENT HEARING.**

Where the charges against an accused are of such a character as that they can be reduced to writing with propriety, they must be preferred in writing and the accused be furnished with a copy of them. After the postponement of a case from the trial day to the next meeting, and a further and indefinite postponement at that time, it cannot at a subsequent time—and without reconsideration of the former action—be taken up, in the absence of the accused and without his knowledge and consent, and he be then and thus tried and expelled from the rights and privileges of Masonry. After such indefinite postponement the accused is entitled to another notice of the time and place of trial.—Proc. 1856, pp. 22, 23. [The rec-

ords are silent as to the adoption of the foregoing, as they are in other reports of the Committee on Grievances that year.]

TRIAL—CIVIL COURT, DEFENSE SET UP IN NOT TO PREJUDICE—
MASONIC TRIBUNAL NOT TO REVIEW.

Where an accused had been previously sued in a court of law, he had a perfect right, under our laws, to set up in said court any defense that the courts of our land would recognize as pertinent and legal, whether the proof came or not. The court in which the accused set up the defense adjudged the matter one way or the other, and that ought to settle it. A Masonic tribunal is not for the purpose of reviewing what proceedings are had in the courts of Indiana.—Proc. 1888, p. 40. A Masonic Lodge is not the place for one brother to pursue another with charges founded on remote or far-fetched matters, with the real purpose of compelling payment of money.—Id. p. 42.

TRIAL, CLOSE OF—EVIDENCE.

Where the prosecution has rested its case, and the defense has introduced his testimony, and the examination is closed, the prosecution cannot, on discovering that it has omitted a part of its testimony in chief, now ask to put it in. It is clearly too late. To allow this without giving the defense an opportunity to rebut would be unjust, and to allow both to introduce new testimony would be to open the whole case after it had once been closed. It is then no longer a question of discretion with the Master whether new testimony shall or shall not be introduced.—Proc. 1872, p. 55.

TRIAL, CONTINUANCE DURING, WITH LEAVE TO AMEND
CHARGES.

Where a new trial was ordered on amended charges, and, after such trial had reached a certain stage, where the prosecution rested its case, a continuance was asked, which the Master granted with permission to the prosecution to again amend the charges and specifications, from which ruling the defense appealed, the Grand Lodge held that the charges could not at that stage of the trial be changed and that the trial must proceed under the charges existing when it was begun.—Proc. 1897, pp. 23, 80.

TRIAL—COUNSEL—WAIVER.

To be represented by counsel is a right guaranteed to every Mason when put upon his trial. This right should be preserved to him inviolate. But a brother may waive this right, and he does waive it if he proceed to trial without counsel, and without raising any objections to proceeding with the trial in the absence of counsel.—Proc. 1886, pp. 42, 43.

TRIAL—CROSS-EXAMINATION OF WITNESS—IMPEACHMENT.

The Grand Lodge held, where the accused had testified in his own defense, that it was error for the Master, over the objection of the accused, to require him to answer the following questions: “Do you want the brethren and Worshipful Master to understand that the brothers (naming two who testified against him) are liars and perjurers?” “Is it not a fact that you were a member of a Lodge of Knights of Pythias, and have been expelled for un-Pythian con-

duct?" "Is it not a fact that you were a member of the Methodist Church, and was turned out?"—Proc. 1898, p. 68.

TRIAL—JURISDICTION—NON-AFFILIATE.

The Lodge under whose jurisdiction an unaffiliated Mason resides is the only one to try him for unmasonic conduct committed in that jurisdiction.—Proc. 1859, p. 38.

TRIAL—LODGE SHOULD CONDUCT, NOT COMMITTEE.

A Lodge in whose jurisdiction an unmasonic act is committed should proceed to charge and try the case, and not compel the witnesses to attend the sittings of committees appointed by the Lodge of which the accused is a member, as the witnesses and injured parties should be accommodated, in preference to the party charged.—Proc. 1859, p. 38.

TRIAL—MASTER MAY PRESIDE, THOUGH A WITNESS—SHOULD NOT IF PERSONALLY INTERESTED.

A Worshipful Master is not disqualified from presiding over his Lodge in a trial for the reason that he may be called to give testimony, any more than any other member who might be called to testify would be disqualified from voting on the findings in the case. But should a case so arise where the Master is a party in interest, his good sense should not only induce him to retire from the chair during the trial, but also to refrain from voting.—Proc. 1874, pp. 95, 96; Proc. 1878, p. 17; Proc. 1888, p. 37.

TRIAL—ONCE IN JEOPARDY—APPEAL.

Where an accused was tried by his Lodge on four specifications, acquitted on the two first and found guilty on the third and fourth, with the penalty of two months' suspension, from which he appealed to the Grand Lodge, which remanded the case for a new trial—the two months expiring in the interim—the Grand Lodge substantially held that he could be tried again on all the four specifications.—Proc. 1873, pp. 18, 65. But see Proc. 1895, pp. 25, 118.

TRIAL—ONCE IN JEOPARDY—NEW TRIAL.

A brother once acquitted cannot be again tried for the same offense unless a new trial has been regularly ordered according to law.—Proc. 1895, pp. 25, 118. Compare Proc. 1873, pp. 18, 65.

TRIAL—PLEA OF GUILTY IN CRIMINAL COURT—EXPLANATION
OF—EVIDENCE.

Where an accused in a Masonic trial, in which conviction followed the proof that said accused had entered a plea of guilty in a court of criminal jurisdiction as to the identical offense, and then in said Masonic trial testified that in fact he was not guilty, and had then and there so asserted, but that he had entered such plea of guilty to avoid the publicity and humiliation that a public trial would have caused, the Committee on Grievances and Appeals of the Grand Lodge, on appeal from the said Masonic trial, held that, if in fact innocent, he owed it as a duty to himself, to his friends and to the Order to insist upon his innocence before said criminal court, and refuse to

place upon record a solemn admission that he had been guilty of a violation of the laws of his country, the laws of morality and the laws of Masonry; and that the Lodge, in weighing his testimony, had the right to consider its probability or improbability, and the probability or improbability of a Master Mason, strong in the consciousness of innocence, deliberately pleading guilty of a crime.—Proc. 1892, pp. 70, 71. [The report of which the above is in part a digest was not concurred in by the Grand Lodge, doubtless on the point of punishment, and not on the questions of law.]

TRIAL—SEPARATE CHARGES—SEPARATE BALLOTS ON QUESTION OF GUILT.

Where an accused was charged and tried upon two separate and specific charges, and when the Lodge was called upon to decide as to the guilt or innocence of the defendant, they did not vote upon each charge separately, but upon the charges collectively, resulting in finding the defendant guilty, the Grand Lodge held this to be error, and that a separate ballot should have been taken upon each specific charge.—Proc. 1898, pp. 67, 68; Id. p. 75; Id. p. 76. See also Proc. 1872, p. 48; Id. pp. 70, 71. This law must be strictly complied with, and the accused cannot waive his right to have a vote as to his guilt or innocence on each specific charge.—Proc. 1898, p. 76.

TRIAL—SPECIFICATIONS, SEVERAL—PENALTIES, DEGREES OF—EXPULSION AFTER SUSPENSION.

Where an accused was charged in one specification with non-payment of dues, and in two additional speci-

fications with graver offenses, and, after trial, the first ballot was taken in the proper order on the one for non-payment of dues—to which a plea of guilty had been entered—resulting in the penalty of indefinite suspension, and then the ballot was had on the two remaining specifications, respectively, resulting in the penalty of expulsion, the accused, on appeal, contended that having first fixed said penalty of indefinite suspension, the Lodge could not fix the penalty of expulsion under each of the other specifications, after he had been suspended. The Grand Lodge held that the fact that the Lodge fixed the penalty of indefinite suspension for non-payment of dues before voting on the other specifications, if an irregularity, did not prejudice the rights of the accused, and that if before the time the charges were preferred he had been indefinitely suspended, the Lodge would have had the right to try him, and, if found guilty, assess the penalty of expulsion. A Mason who has been indefinitely suspended is still a Mason, and liable to Masonic punishment, although prohibited from the exercise of his Masonic privileges during the pleasure of the Lodge.—Proc. 1893, pp. 84, 85, 86. [Query: Does the concluding clause of the last sentence above admit of the construction that by so trying a suspended Mason, “the pleasure of the Lodge” has restored to him the privilege of sitting in open Lodge—as he must do if properly on trial—while still under sentence of indefinite suspension?] But contra to the above decision, see Proc. 1869, p. 74.

TRIAL—SUMMONS—WITNESS—OBJECTION TO SIT WITH.

A Mason—wherever he may be—who is summoned to appear before a Lodge as a witness, and refuses to obey such summons, should be charged, tried and punished for such offense. He cannot justify such disobedience by the fact that he may at one time have been “objected out” by a member of the Lodge from which such summons has been sent. Being summoned by the Lodge to appear as a witness, it is not in the power of any member any longer to object him out of the Lodge. Being a witness, he has a right to defy captious objections of his personal enemies and enter the Lodge, and no one can say him nay. The rights of a Lodge are not higher or greater before the world than the ordinary rights of the humblest Mason, but when a Mason agrees that he will answer and obey all due summonses, etc., he must do it.—Proc. 1884, pp. 67, 68. As to the right of a brother who is present as a witness to remain in the Lodge during the trial, see Proc. 1888, p. 42.

TRIAL—SUNDAY, CONTINUANCE OVER—LODGE THE JURY—
VOTE, WHO SHOULD.

Where a trial is begun on Saturday, the Lodge should be closed at midnight. To proceed after that hour would be to hold a court on Sunday, which, by the common law of the land, is a day upon which no judicial proceedings can be had.—Kiger v. Coats, 18 Ind. 154. There is also a direct Masonic law whose spirit is opposed to the holding of Lodges on Sunday, except for funeral purposes.—Rules and Regulations, Art. VII, Sec. 2. The Master can continue the fur-

ther hearing of the case to any subsequent day, of which the accused and the Lodge should have proper notice. It is possible that a Masonic trial might occur of such magnitude and importance as would require many days for its completion; consequently, the power to adjourn from time to time is proper and inherent.—Mackey's Encyclopedia—Title Trials. The trial can be proceeded with at the point from which any postponement was ordered. The Lodge, as assembled in the first instance, or from time to time during a trial, or as it exists at the conclusion of the trial, is the jury. While it may be the right of every member present at the conclusion of the trial to vote, no member should vote who has not heard all the evidence. It is a matter of conscience which should be suggested to the members by the Master, and any member requesting it for this reason should be excused from voting.—Proc. 1879, pp. 22, 23, 72.

UNMASONIC CONDUCT—PREVIOUS TO FORMATION OF TRIAL LODGE.

Any subordinate Lodge is empowered to receive and decide upon charges against any sojourning brethren (or otherwise within its jurisdiction) for unmasonic conduct committed previously to the existence of such subordinate Lodge in like manner as though such conduct had occurred afterwards.—Proc. 1847, p. 20.

UNWORTHINESS BEFORE INITIATION EQUIVALENT TO REJECTION.

Where an applicant for initiation had been duly balloted for by the Lodge, and elected to receive the degrees, but against whom, and before he had received the first degree, the Worshipful Master had private,

and in his judgment reliable information of unworthiness, and therefore ordered the Secretary to enter upon the minutes of the Lodge that the candidate was "rejected," though in this decision he "was informal in his phraseology," yet his action in the matter was lawful, and in accordance with the laws of Masonry.—Proc. 1864, p. 75.

VISIT—PRIVILEGE—MEMBERS SUSPENDED LODGE.

Where a Lodge has been suspended, its members are, during the period of such suspension, Masons in good standing, and are entitled to the privilege of visiting other Lodges.—Proc. 1897, p. 113.

VISITING—PRIVILEGE—RIGHT OF LODGE TO DETERMINE.

The right to determine upon the propriety or impropriety of admitting or not admitting a visiting brother is a prerogative which every regularly organized Lodge should possess; and if in the opinion of the Lodge there exists sufficient cause to reject the visit of a brother, the Lodge has a right to do so, but should state in their records the cause of such rejection.—Proc. 1820, pp. 6, 9; Hacker's Rep., pp. 48, 49, 50.

VISITOR—VOUCHING—LAWFUL INFORMATION—PHOTOGRAPH
AND CERTIFICATE—DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE.

A visitor failing to prove himself by the usual tests, presented his photograph to the Master, who forwarded it to the Secretary of the Lodge in which the visitor was made a Mason, who certified, under the seal of the Lodge attached to the photograph, that the brother was a member, regularly made and in good standing. The Grand Master being asked if this was a sufficient

voucher, decided that it was not, and that no documentary evidence of any description whatever is lawful information, sufficient to admit a visitor as a Master Mason in good standing; and this decision was approved by the Grand Lodge.—Proc. 1876, pp. 33, 127.

VOTE, HOW TAKEN—TRIAL.

On the investigation of charges, or to inflict or remove a penalty, the intention of the law is that white and black balls should be used; but, in such case, where ballots written on paper have been used, it is not such an irregularity as will invalidate the action of the Lodge.—Proc. 1876, pp. 28, 130. But such action is declared “a very grave error,” in Proc. 1873, pp. 60, 61.

VOTE—MASTER MASONS ONLY.

No subordinate Lodge shall permit anyone of a lower degree than a Master Mason to vote on any subject coming before the Lodge.—Proc. 1840; Hacker’s Rep., p. 338.

VOTE—ON ALL QUESTIONS—DUTY OF EVERY MEMBER, UNLESS EXCUSED—PRESUMPTION OF EXCUSE.

It is the duty of every member of a Lodge to vote upon all questions presented, unless excused by the Lodge. Where a number voted on the adoption of an amendment, and no one voted in the negative, but the record shows that others were present who did not vote, the conclusion of the Grand Lodge, on appeal, was that these others were so excused, and that the amendment in question was adopted by a unanimous vote.—Proc. 1892, p. 100.

VOTE—RESTORATION—MEMBERSHIP—UNAFFILIATION.

In construction of Sections 125 (since formally amended, Proc. 1897, pp. 110, 111) and 127 of the General Regulations, the Grand Lodge held that, upon petition for restoration under said sections, a unanimous vote restores to membership; a majority vote to the condition of an unaffiliated Mason.—Proc. 1892, pp. 12, 59; Proc. 1895, pp. 27, 118; Proc. 1896, pp. 27, 92.

WARDEN, MAY SUCCEED MASTER—VACANCY NOT OCCASIONED THEREBY.

In case of the death of the Worshipful Master, the Warden next in rank succeeds to his rights, duties and powers; but there is thereby no vacancy in the office of Warden.—Proc. 1892, pp. 15, 59; Id., p. 56.

WARDEN—RANKING—RIGHT TO CONFER DEGREES.

The Senior or Junior Warden, when he succeeds to the duties of the station of the Master, has the power, and it is his duty, to confer degrees, as the Master might do if present.—Proc. 1858, p. 79.

WARDEN, REFUSING TO ASSIST HIS SUPERIOR OFFICER.

A Warden, or one acting as such, refusing to assist the Worshipful Master in closing the Lodge, can be charged, tried and expelled for such misconduct.—Proc. 1856, p. 48.

WEBB'S MONITOR.

Resolved, That the Illustrations of Masonry, published by Brother Thomas S. Webb, be adopted for the government of this Grand Lodge, and that they be recommended to be adopted by all the subordinate

Lodges in this State for the government of the same.
—Proc. 1818, p. 21 (reprint); Hacker's Rep., p. 22.

WEBB WORK—RITUAL.

This Grand Lodge has already adopted what is known as the "Webb Work," which is now declared to be the authorized work of this State.—Proc. 1869, pp. 12, 75. The propriety of adopting this work for this Grand Jurisdiction was considered at the various sessions of our Grand Lodge in 1860, 1861 and 1862, was commended at all times, ordered promulgated by District Deputy Grand Masters, and was virtually adopted to all intents and purposes. No other work ever was adopted by our Grand Lodge, and consequently this is our work, or we have none whatever. For us, then, its provisions are a law superior to any other on the subject under discussion, and we have no other law, and the substitution for it of any other ritual can only tend to uncertainty and confusion.—Proc. 1897, p. 89; Proc. 1898, pp. 13, 77, 78. See also Proc. 1860, pp. 99, 109, 113; Proc. 1861, pp. 33, 34, 35, 40, 41, 42, 73; Proc. 1862, pp. 5, 6, 7, 48, 59, 60; Proc. 1863, pp. 8, 9.

WIDOW—RESIDENCE OF—CARE OF.

It is the duty of the Lodge in whose jurisdiction the widow of a deceased brother resides to care for her.
—Proc. 1893, pp. 22, 65.

WIFE, INFIDELITY TO.

The Grand Lodge, on appeal, confirmed the action of a subordinate Lodge in expelling a member for infidelity to his wife.—Proc. 1886, p. 33. Also for

writing letters to another woman tending to result in such infidelity, and making unjust and serious charges against his wife.—Proc. 1894, pp. 71, 72, 73.

WIFE OF MASTER MASON—LETTER TO FOR PURPOSE OF
ACCOMPLISHING AN EVIL RESULT—SLANDER.

Masonry regards the home as sacred. The writing and sending a letter soliciting a private interview with the wife of a Mason, whether its purpose was to debauch her or not, was an offense which Masonry cannot condone. It is no light matter for one man to write a letter to the wife of another, the evident purpose of which was to accomplish an evil result; and where a Mason is found guilty of such an offense against a brother Mason, the penalty of reprimand is inadequate; and in such a case the Grand Lodge changed the penalty to expulsion.—Proc. 1893, p. 78. As to power to make such change, see Proc. 1892, pp. 72, 93, 106. Slandering and traducing the character of a Master Mason's wife is a Masonic offense.—Proc. 1893, pp. 81, 82; Proc. 1894, pp. 78, 79.

WITNESS—PRESENCE, OBJECTION TO.

Where an accused objected to a brother remaining in the Lodge during the trial, such brother being there as a witness, the Grand Lodge sustained the Worshipful Master in ruling that the brother had a right to remain.—Proc. 1888, p. 42. Such witness, if a member of another Lodge, cannot be "objected out" of the Lodge he is present in under a summons.—Proc. 1884, p. 67.

WORK—LABOR—THIRD DEGREE—REFRESHMENT.

All work of a Lodge must be performed when at labor. The second section of the third degree cannot be conferred while at refreshment.—Proc. 1874, pp. 17, 90.

WORK—LODGES MUST CONFORM TO THE RITUAL ADOPTED BY
THE GRAND LODGE.

Lodges organized prior to the seventies cannot be permitted to work in the same manner in every respect as they had done before the seventies, without regard to the present regular method of work adopted by the Grand Lodge [Proc. 1869, pp. 12, 75] and generally practiced in Indiana Lodges. All Lodges, no matter at what time organized, must conform to the regular work adopted by the Grand Lodge of Indiana.—Proc. 1898, pp. 13, 77, 78. [See title: Webb Work, of this Digest.]

WORK—MASTER HAS RIGHT TO ARRANGE—THREATS TO
IMPEDE, IF ONE BE NOT STOPPED.

Where an accused endeavored to stop the order of business, as arranged by the Worshipful Master, by objecting to the conferring of the Master's degree upon a candidate for the sole reason that such candidate had to wear a truss, and threatened to prevent several candidates already elected from going further in Masonry unless the one in question was stopped, said accused at that time knowing that the Grand Master had decided that the said degree should be conferred on the candidate in question notwithstanding his necessity to wear a truss, was justly found

guilty of a Masonic offense. In the absence of direct law to the contrary, the Worshipful Master has a reasonable discretion in the matter of arranging priorities in the business to be transacted. His discretion must be what is known in law to be a judicious or judicial discretion. If he were to so exercise his official discretion as to give it the temper of haughtiness, and so overawe the brethren, and become imperious in his dictation, then his ruling would become reprehensible.—Proc. 1884, pp. 59, 60, 61. As to wearing truss, see Proc. 1882, pp. 17, 93.

WORSHIPFUL MASTER CANNOT BIND LODGE.

The Master has no power to bind the Lodge by any contract or agreement unless the Lodge authorizes or directs him to do so, or approves his action after it is reported.—Proc. 1891, p. 103.

WORSHIPFUL MASTER, CHARGES BY, WITNESS TO, PRESIDING AT SUCH TRIAL.

It is not a good precedent to allow the Worshipful Master to sign or prefer charges, testify as a witness, and also preside over the Lodge at the trial. His official standing gives him great influence, and he is too much interested in the final result, where he prefers the charges himself, to preside with that discretion and absolute fairness that ought to characterize the chair on such occasions.—Proc. 1888, p. 37; Proc. 1894, p. 8. His right to preside at a trial cannot be objected to, nor can he be deprived of it.—Proc. 1893, pp. 22, 65.

WORSHIPFUL MASTER—RIGHT TO VOTE—CASTING VOTE, NONE.

While the Worshipful Master has unusual powers as a presiding officer, his voting capacity is no greater than that of any other member.—Proc. 1880, p. 22. He is not allowed the casting vote in case of a tie in addition to his vote as a member.—Proc. 1891, p. 57; Proc. 1895, pp. 29, 118; Proc. 1897, p. 61.

WORSHIPFUL MASTER—STATIONS, CANNOT FILL, WHEN HIMSELF
TO BE ABSENT.

A by-law containing a section ending: "the Master having the right to appoint the officers pro tem. in his absence," is as to such a clause incorrect and unmasonic.—Proc. 1821, pp. 11, 14; Hacker's Rep., pp. 74, 76.

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